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January 15th, 2014 ■ Issue No. 20 ■ Volume 104

# THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



## WHERE THE HEART IS

**A look at youth  
homelessness on  
campus and in  
Edmonton** P. 12



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**colophon**

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**news haiku**

Excuse me, weirdos  
Soft cookies trump hard cookies  
It's a goddamn FACT.

Front page illustration: Jessica Hong



PHOTO OF THE WEEK A panhandler holds out his cap as paradegeers from last summer's Pride Parade pass by. AMIRALI SHARIFI


# streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Andrea Ross + Kevin Schenk**

As you may have heard, *Gateway* editors are at war over one crucial question.

WE ASKED...

## Which is better: soft or hard cookies?




**Jessica Del Genio** REHAB MED I

"I would definitely say soft cookie, because I prefer cookie dough over actual cookies. My cookies rarely make it to the oven."



**Taylor Rault** ENGINEERING I

"It depends on the type of cookie. If it's peanut butter, definitely harder, but if you have a nice chocolate chip cookie, definitely softer. I'm gonna say a harder cookie (is better)."



**Jacob Black** SCIENCE III

"It's too sexual of a question ... Wet cookies. What about that? The moister the better."



**Joel Tanasychuk** PHYS ED I

"I believe they both have good values to them, and I believe soft cookies are good when they're right out of the oven. But hard cookies can also be good in the form of a ginger-snap. I would go overall with a soft cookie."



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# News

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## Long-awaited fall reading week finally on horizon

Students' Union pushes proposal for a week-long break through Deans' Council, hopes to garner approval for fall, 2015 implementation

**Michelle Mark**

NEWS EDITOR • @MICHELLEAMARK

The nearly four-year-long wait to implement a fall reading week at the University of Alberta may finally be drawing to a close. A Students' Union proposal for a break concurrent with Remembrance Day is moving through university governance and receiving largely positive feedback from stakeholders, SU President Petros Kusmu said.

SU executives met with the Deans' Council last Wednesday to discuss the proposal, and hope to bring it forward to several other governance committees within the next month. The earliest possible implementation of the reading week would be fall, 2015.

Kusmu said the process has been so drawn out due to the complexity of crafting a proposal that doesn't dip below the required minimum 1,850 instructional minutes, doesn't fall too early or late in the semester and satisfies stakeholders such as students, deans and the academic staff association.

Plus, with seven different iterations of each calendar year, the SU had to create proposals to fit seven different calendars, while ensuring no year requires classes to begin before Sept. 1 or end too late in December.

Some concerns remain, such as one dean's worry that a week-long fall break won't adequately address students' mental health issues, but Kusmu said the overall



SUPPLIED: DOMINIC ALVES

response to the proposal has been promising and he hopes to address all criticisms.

"For the most part, it seems like deans are relatively comfortable, and I'm really happy to see that," he said. "We're truly listening to those who raise their concerns, and we've changed and tweaked our proposal as we went on."

"This isn't just about student mental health. It's about student success, which includes student mental health, academic success, students who need time to work and raise enough money to perhaps keep going for the rest of the

semester."

Dean of Students Frank Robinson said he was initially concerned about implementing a week-long break — particularly because of the isolating effect it could have on students who don't have a social circle, family or community to fall back on.

Classes often act as a lifeline for students who lack other social interaction, he said, adding that a week off classes during the fall semester would have to be filled with positive programming to ensure students get the help they need.

"For example, a student who doesn't know anybody in Alberta (and) doesn't have a contact with a prof or with a job — that week, we could actually put on programming that would put that student into becoming used to Canada, used to Alberta, maybe show them some of the services we have that can help," he said.

"That was where my support for the program went. When it became something that would help students that need help."

Robinson said other concerns raised by deans included the reading

week's lack of benefits for students away from the U of A on internships or teaching placements, but the main issue raised was the timing of the break. Some deans contended that a November break falls too late in the semester, but Robinson said he doesn't buy the argument.

"I personally am not convinced that timing matters all that much," he said. "If it's a time where we help students to make connections, that can probably help students at any time."

The fall reading week proposal is scheduled to be taken to the General Faculties' Council's Executive Committee on Wednesday, and to GFC on Feb. 3.

But ultimately, the decision to accept the proposal and implement the break in fall, 2015 lies with Provost Carl Amrhein, who returns from administrative leave early in February.

Kusmu said he's cautiously optimistic the proposal will pass through governance and receive a nod from Amrhein, but he also realizes the proposal isn't a perfect one.

Compromises had to be made and stakeholders' concerns mitigated, Kusmu said, and the proposal is as good as it gets, given the constraints of the academic calendar.

"Overall it's pretty positive and I don't want to jinx it," he said.

"One of the biggest things for me is just making sure stakeholders have felt like they've been truly listened to and consulted. I've tried my damn best to do that."

## CJSR radio station celebrates weirdness on 30th anniversary

**Billy-Ray Belcourt**

NEWS STAFF • @BILLYRAYB

After 30 years of eclectic and progressive on-air programming, CJSR has fully embraced its "weird" persona by tapping into a wavelength of diverse interests, issues and distinct broadcasting practices.

Edmonton City Hall was booming with a refreshing mix of alternative music and avant-garde talk shows on Jan. 7, as the campus radio station celebrated its 30th anniversary on the airwaves by hosting a live broadcast and kickstarting a handful of events, which include retrospective documentaries, that will examine CJSR's vibrant history and innovative programming.

News director Matt Hirji said CJSR has been fundamental in promoting unconventional ideas since its conception in order to embody its mandate to engage its audience by continuously challenging the status quo within the media landscape.

"We've sort of been the voice of the people who don't often get an opportunity to have access to more mainstream forms of media," he said.

"Community radio is really one of those mediums that will continue on and constantly be that voice of progressive ideas and the weirdness of our city."

According to Hirji, since Jan. 7, 1984, CJSR has also wholeheartedly accepted its identity as an unconventional

radio station.

Through the thousands of programs that have graced the FM dial on their station, Hirji feels they're profoundly successful in questioning the normalized frameworks of broadcasting in order to promote experimentation and social justice, two instances of the former include broadcasting from a bathtub and a moving bus.

"We've always sort of been the weird radio station or the station that does things a little differently and then sounds not like that other radio station, and as a result I think we progress the dialogue to what radio can do and how it can be a medium for change in our city," he said.

Hirji said he feels their spoken word programs have always embodied this amalgamation of radio with social awareness in order to represent an array of voices often marginalized in mainstream media. He also pointed to their quirky music shows as digressions from the trite sounds spewed by most major radio stations.

"Our spoken word programming has always been really quite progressive. We were one of the first radio stations in Canada to have an LGBTQ radio show. *Gaywire* started about 18 years ago and it was sort of an unheard of show (and an) unheard of topic for people in mainstream media to be talking about," he said.

"We have a number of music and



DAN MCKECHNIE

eclectic music shows that are always really pushing notions of, 'What is music anyways?' We have ambient shows now and we've always had those elements coming in."

But Mark Rogers, production and promotions co-ordinator, emphasizes the fact that CJSR has been a community-based and volunteer-driven radio station throughout its 30-year history. Rogers said he feels the freedom to construct your own radio station provides its volunteers with a rewarding experience that is

distinct to CJSR.

"The fact that everybody's a volunteer I think is the whole part of it," he said.

"The reason why someone would volunteer for 30 years is because it's their show and they get to pick what they want. So every show sort of embodies that spirit because it's self-programmed."

In alluding to such programs as *Terra Informa*, the environmental news show, Rogers feels that CJSR's success has been a result of its ability

to introduce and maintain one-of-a-kind programs that provide much needed sound bites of ingenuity and novelty.

"It's really quite shocking the cross section that we have on the station as well because there's 100 different shows in 12 different languages — try to get that anywhere else," he said.

"I think the fact that the radio market in Edmonton is so saturated makes CJSR even more important. CJSR is by no means cut and paste."



# U of A opens up about land use for East Campus Village

**Billy-Ray Belcourt**  
NEWS STAFF • @BILLYRAYB

The University of Alberta is planning to remove 10 houses from the East Campus Village area to make way for three student housing projects, including two infill housing options on 90th Ave. and the recently proposed Peter Lougheed Leadership College on Saskatchewan Drive — all of which will begin construction in fall, 2014.

The U of A is soliciting expressions of interest until Jan. 24 from the community to purchase and relocate the historic homes, but Doug Dawson, executive director of Ancillary Services, said if the homes aren't purchased, they will be demolished.

"We think it's a creative way to preserve the architectural integrity ... and another way to protect our history if the houses can be reused," he said. "So we're hoping that there's enough interest and the houses are kept sustainable and moved to another site."

The university hosted two open houses on Jan. 8 to increase transparency and address criticisms and questions surrounding the land use in the ECV district, and the recently formalized plans for new on-campus student residences.

Dawson said the two infill housing projects, which will cost a total of \$5.5 million and are being funded by reserve dollars from Ancillary Services, are part of the university's larger incentive — dating back to the early 2000s — to accommodate 25 per cent of full-time students on campus.

The Parkland Institute, EcoHouse and the Law House, along with some two- and three-bedroom homes, are

among the buildings that will need to be removed — or demolished, as a last resort — to generate the space for all three projects. Dawson said the infill housing will be built to replicate the authentic aesthetics generated by the older architecture.

The two facilities on 90th Ave. will house 34 and 37 students, but Dawson said that decisions have yet to be made as to which students will be eligible to live in them. Discussions are currently taking place between the Dean of Students' Office and the Faculty of Law regarding housing options.

"One of these houses that is coming down currently houses a small number of law students so there's a potential for, if the faculty agrees, to develop another Law House," he said.

But Dawson also said these new residence facilities could be used as cohorts that would see second-, third- and fourth-year undergraduate students living together based on shared academic and extracurricular interests.

Dawson also explained that current EcoHouse residents are being accommodated until their current lease agreements expire.

Although discussions are in their early stages, he said there is a possibility that an updated and expanded EcoHouse could be built in ECV that would house a greater amount of students.

"The intent is that the new one, if it's done, might be an opportunity for students to participate in research around sustainability," he said, adding that the residence would be more "technically savvy."

The conceptual plans for the Leadership College were also displayed at the open houses and it will occupy

the northern most portion of ECV. It's part of the Peter Lougheed Leadership Initiative at the U of A and The Banff Centre that aims to create the next generation of visionary leaders. It will house 144 students and has received fierce criticism by the university community.

Dawson said this facility will be funded by donor money. The construction of the building has been set at \$35 million and broader programming under the Leadership Initiative will require \$83 million.

Anne Bailey, senior issues and communications manager for University Relations, said much of the academic and extracurricular details and the admissions criteria for the Leadership College have yet to be finalized.

She explained that Acting Provost Martin Ferguson-Pell created a Leadership-Academic Coordinating Committee in November composed of a combination of deans, faculty members, Students' Union representatives, graduate students and Community Service Learning students and staff to address both the academic and leadership qualities of the College and the concerns voiced by the student body.

According to Bailey, the idea that the College will be "elitist" is based on misinformation, noting that "all programs at the university require application and selection." She added that the committee and the project planners are attempting to construct the leadership program as something that is diverse, inclusive and broad.

"We don't want to lose the fact that this is a tremendously exciting opportunity, not just for the university but for students too that we don't want to lose sight of or let go



**DEMOLITION DECISIONS** The Parkland Institute will be removed from ECV. JULIA SHONFIELD

of," she said.

Robert Moyles, senior director of the Office of Advancement Strategic Communications, said the premise behind the Leadership College is not a novel concept as it's integral to the university's goals and history. He said he feels the initiative is a continuation of the leadership programs already thriving on campus, including those in the business faculty.

"Those are going to be enhanced and the experience of everyone in those programs and others are going to be enhanced as this leadership program develops," he said.

But not every stakeholder in the university community believes the project is beneficial.

The Parkland Institute, currently located in ECV on 90th Ave., was served an eviction notice during the summer and has been informed they will be relocated to three large rooms on the first floor of the Humanities Building early in the new

year.

Executive director Ricardo Acuña said although he is grateful the Faculty of Arts could find a space for the Parkland Institute, he feels the move will be harmful to the organization.

"Our location right now, where we are in the East Campus Village is pretty accessible. We have a lot of public folks coming through who are quite intimidated by the university so it's going to hurt us in that regard in terms of public traffic and accessibility," he said.


"The space is not ideal. The non-academic staff are going to be essentially working in cubbies in one large room instead of each having their individual offices like they have now."

All new facilities are expected to be operational by fall, 2016.

The public can view the proposed plans online, and has until Jan. 19 to email comments to University Relations.

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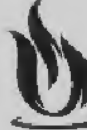
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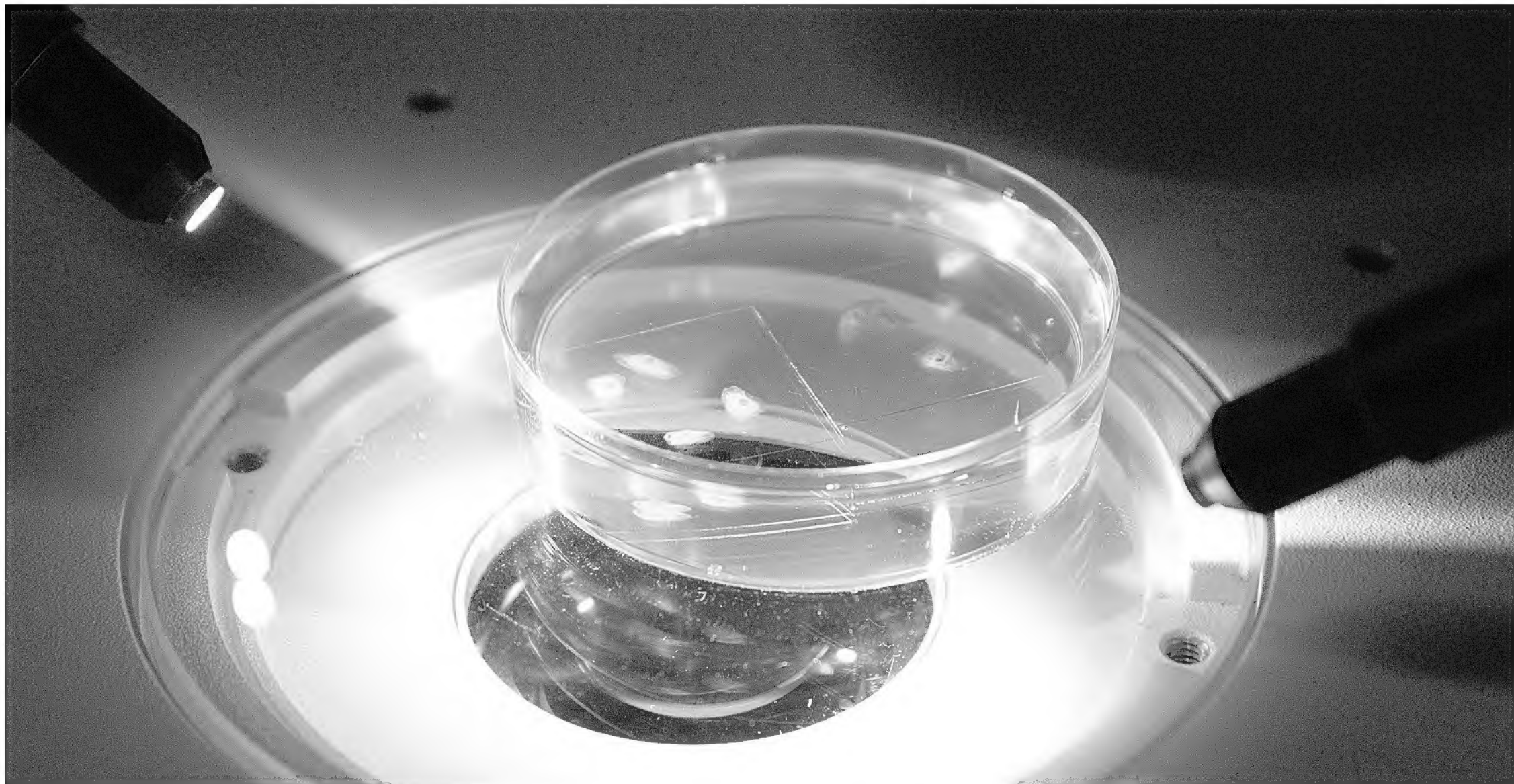
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GESUNDHEIT These baby lake sponges sneeze when their filters are clogged by sediment in the water. CHRISTINA VARVIS

# Sensory systems of sneezing sponges a lesson in evolution

Michelle Mark  
NEWS EDITOR • @MICHELLEAMARK

That brief tingling sensation just before a sneeze lasts just a few seconds for a human, but a full sneeze can last up to 45 minutes for a lake or ocean sponge — or, just enough time to teach scientists some valuable lessons about the evolution of sensory systems.

Danielle Ludeman, a graduate student and Zoology 250 instructor, said she never thought her time at the University of Alberta would be spent watching sponges sneeze for hours. But after her work proving the existence of a sensory organ in one of the world's most basic animals, Ludeman discovered it was well worth the effort.

"Sponges, I think, are really cool because we still know so little about them," she said.

"They don't have a nervous system, they don't have true muscles, they don't have a digestive system. They don't have all the things that we like to think of as being animals. But they're still animals."

Like other animals, sponges feed and play integral roles in their habitats, but they also respond to their environments, Ludeman said. When a sponge sneezes, it's sometimes because of a mechanical disturbance in their environment — the shaking of a petri dish, for example.

**"It's easy to think of (sponges) as just a lump of cells, but I just shook that dish and it sneezed. I would sometimes come in in the morning and turn the computer on, and it would sneeze."**

DANIELLE LUDEMAN  
STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

But Ludeman's research focuses more on the elements in the water that cause a sponge to inhale water and inflate, and then push the water out, expelling debris.

She found that sediment in the

water is often responsible for the sponges' sneezes, clogging up their filters and irritating the sensory organs, in the same way inhaled dust can make a person sneeze.

"It surprised me how responsive sponges are," she said. "It's easy to think of them as just a lump of cells, but I just shook that dish and it sneezed. I would sometimes come in in the morning and turn the computer on, and it would sneeze."

Furthermore, the findings included the discovery of cilia, small sensory cells acting as antennae, in the sponges' osculum, canals controlling water flow, which work in a similar way to cilia in human kidneys. Ludeman said the sponges may prove useful in conducting research on kidney conditions such as polycystic kidney disease.

"The same drugs that are used to study kidney cilia work the same way on a sponge," she said.

"The sponge may prove to be a very useful model, because it has the cilia, and it's a simple animal that you can just hatch in a lab and do experiments on."

# U of New Brunswick faculty strike prompts private security contracts

Nick Murray  
CUP — THE BRUNSWICKAN

FREDERICTON (CUP) — The University of New Brunswick has contracted a professional security company to be stationed at several entrances around both Fredericton and Saint John campuses where Association of University of New Brunswick Teachers (AUNBT) strikers are picketing.

A security team was spotted Tuesday morning (Jan. 14) at the Kings College road entrance to the Fredericton campus. Two officers were parked in a white minivan. One was wearing a fluorescent yellow jacket with a security crest on the chest and a patch on his sleeve with the initials "AFIMAC."

UNB associate vice-president of human resources Peter McDougall confirmed AFIMAC's presence on campus Tuesday.

"We want everybody to feel like we're taking their health and safety seriously. So that's why they're there," McDougall said.

"One of the things you see in the news is that there's always a concern of somebody coming up and doing or saying something inappropriate, or people acting in an unsafe manner. They're not there for anything other than to make sure

everything happens in a peaceful way in accordance with everybody's legal rights."

But AUNBT president Miriam Jones said he feels it's overkill.

"It's another example of the administration using students' money to pay high businesses," Jones said. "They're very happy to pay anyone but us, frankly."

McDougall wouldn't disclose how much UNB is paying AFIMAC, but said a contract has been signed between both parties.

"The cost will depend upon how long their services are needed and how long the dispute goes on," McDougall said. "It can't be known as of today what this service will be costing us."

The university does have financial information regarding the agreement, but refused to disclose any specific details of the arrangement with AFIMAC.

"There is a contract in place. We wouldn't enter into an agreement just at, 'Come in and we'll sort out the price later.' That would not be how the university would do business," McDougall said. "What I'm saying is we would not be in a position to release the details of that contract to you."

A Right to Information request has been placed with UNB's Office

of the Secretariat for a copy of the contract.

McDougall also said he doesn't anticipate there will be any issues which would need de-escalating.

"There's no reason for us to think that and there's been no evidence of that to date," McDougall said. "These are very professional individuals and people can legitimately disagree. We're used to debate and different opinions."

Jones said he didn't want to speculate on whether or not the picketers would up the ante with a peaceful demonstration like stopping traffic, but she said other academics from across Canada will be coming Friday to lend support.

The Canadian Association of University Teachers will also be on hand to present the strikers a support cheque for \$1 million.

Strikers have been collecting \$100 per day for picketing, and have been rotating three-hour shifts.

"If they do their full strike duty, they're taking home \$700 per week," Jones said.

On its website, AFIMAC states, "For more than 30 years, AFIMAC has offered elite strike security, executive and close protection, cargo security, investigation and workplace violence services to image conscious companies across the globe."



## University of Alberta Golden Bears & Pandas

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# Opinion

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

## Levant deserves our respect despite his political views

PLAYWRIGHT GEORGE BERNARD SHAW ONCE MUSED THAT HE “learned long ago, never to wrestle with a pig. You get dirty, and besides, the pig likes it.”

For some of the delegates attending the annual national conference of the Canadian University Press, a non-profit co-operative made up of student newspaper organizations from across the country, heeding Shaw’s words might have spared them the embarrassment of having some figurative mud on their face after arguing with keynote speaker Ezra Levant this past weekend.

By his own admission, the Sun News contributor and popular conservative pundit enjoys provoking people. He loves challenging conventional thought and wisdom, which, despite having landed him in legal trouble in the past, has also produced some journalistic gems. One of his most well known stories involved exposing prominent and popular Canadian environmental David Suzuki for his alleged \$30,000 speaker fee and alleged request for a female exclusive security detail drawn from the school’s student body while giving a speech at Montreal’s John Abbott College.

Levant sees himself as a self-proclaimed “freedom fighter,” looking for stories that go relatively uncovered and unnoticed by the rest of the mainstream media, and helped to somewhat solidify the notion of what he calls “the media party.”

So it was no surprise that during his keynote speech at the conference in the ballroom of the Chateau Lacombe hotel on Saturday night, Levant expressed his belief in this notion of a liberal consensus media by saying that he doesn’t pretend to be an “objective journalist.” According to Levant, it’s the rest of the mainstream media — which he accused of being “stenographers” for left-wing causes and politicians — who do pretend to be.

He pointed out the indisputable fact that as university students who had almost no experience working an eight hour day on the floor of a factory, every single person listening to his talk — regardless of gender, race or sexuality — was a member of a very privileged, exclusive and elite group. This caused many to shift uncomfortably in their seats and others to grow angrily confront Levant’s own self-proclaimed status as a “rich, white conservative pundit.”

While the rest of Levant’s speech wasn’t a huge difference from what the pundit usually talks about on his TV show *The Source*, the University of Alberta alumnus seemed to derive pleasure from the numerous, random outbursts vilifying him throughout his speech. The loud comments from the crowd included implications that he was homophobic, racist and misogynistic even after he explicitly stated that he thought women, African-Americans and gay people were equal to men, white people and heterosexuals, and referenced women’s suffrage, the civil rights movement and the fight for LGBTQ rights as reasons for the necessity of “offensive speech.”

While the shouting came from an extremely vocal minority, that small number of outraged delegates only served to undermine the professionalism that, up until that point, had been maintained and was extremely well displayed throughout the conference. If anything, it’s their opposition to Levant that looks ridiculous.

The difference in treatment between the other keynote speakers and Levant makes one wonder, for instance, what would’ve happened if an adamant and hardcore supporter of Ford Nation had angrily interrupted Wednesday night’s keynote speaker and *Toronto Star* reporter Robyn Doolittle, who rose to fame during 2013 as one of the two journalists to break the Mayor Rob Ford crack story. If a delegate had shouted while Doolittle was talking and loudly accused her of being a liar who used her newfound publicity to further her own journalistic ambitions rather than pursue the truth, they would’ve likely received a negative reaction from their fellow delegates.

The anger and lack of respect reserved for Levant on Saturday may be borne out of an incorrect belief that being a conservative or holding right-wing principles or values is equitable to being ignorant, since the prevailing political pulse at most universities is overwhelmingly left of centre. People — like Levant — are seen to be unintelligent, ill-informed and in need of a good educational lecture by those in the know to put them right.

The underlying irony, of course, is that while many in the room who shouted down Levant will no doubt struggle to gain employment in the field of journalism, Levant is walking proof — albeit not one that many of his detractors would care to admit to — that gaining a stable and relevant foothold in this industry is indeed both plausible and possible even if you are a fire-breathing conservative.

**Atta Almasi**  
SPORTS EDITOR



ANTHONY GOERTZ

## letters to the editor

FROM THE ARCHIVES

### I want to hear all of your complaints

There have recently been several complaints concerning student discipline that have brought to my attention through the university administration. The complaints were raised by persons who have no connection with the Union and who were acting on information that could only have been supplied by students. This is not the way that student complaints should be handled.

If you have a complaint concerning any phase of student conduct, you, as a member of the Students’ Union, have a right to voice it. But a year ago the Board of Governors of this university decided that in the initial instance the Student’s Union would be responsible themselves for handling questions of discipline.

Therefore, if you have a substantial complaint as to student behaviour, please inform me through the Union office, either in person or by mail. I shall attempt to deal with it personally if possible or refer it to the Discipline Committee. I realize that the main reason that these matters were passed on to overtown persons is to retain anonymity by the complainant. I shall attempt to respect this fact.

Fortunately, these instances are relatively few in number, but they do cause poor public relations. The overtown people are not aware of the relative situation existing on the campus and therefore obtain a distorted view. The Administration has given us authority to handle these matters,

therefore they do not desire to be concerned with them. I believe we are certainly mature enough to keep our own house in order. Your cooperation will be in the Students’ interests.

**E. Peter Loughheed**  
FEBRUARY 15, 1952

### This writer is a no good communist

I am amazed that *The Gateway* would publish an editorial so full of distortions of the truth. It is obvious that the writer, Bruce Ferrier, exhibits all the puerile symptoms of the left-wing dialecticism and their system of semantics, which is based on the hypothesis that slavery is freedom.

For example: “If the United States is allowed to intervene wherever and whenever it feels its interests are threatened, what is to prevent China or Russia doing the same?”

The historical facts are that the freedom-and-peace-loving countries of Russia and China have since 1945 enslaved hundreds of millions of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Tibet.

Mr. Ferrier states that: “The bitter truth is that no Communist government could inflict more suffering on the Vietnamese people than the United States’ war already has.”

The Communists would love to have a chance to prove that Comrade Ferrier is in error, and I believe that they could.

**G.P Connolly**  
DECEMBER 15, 1965

### This school isn’t really so great

This week (Registration Week) you will be bombarded with two kinds of propaganda.

One will tell you how wonderful the U of A is, and how exciting it will be to be here this year.

The other kind will tell you how you are being repressed by an essentially irrelevant institution.

It will be practically impossible for anyone to decide the truth and accuracy of these claims and counter-claims, but one thing will be obvious: Change confronts all of us here. What will be the outcome of this change?

Frustration, frustration and more frustration, to be trite. Faculty will be frustrated as the teaching methods they learned by and have been taught by are altered to new patterns. Administrators will be frustrated as these changes introduce more insecurity without producing satisfactory results.

The upshot of frustration is violence and that is what frightens me. To students, the idea of revolution by violence becomes more and more attractive as a means of removing the causes of frustration, while to administrators, any means of maintaining control becomes justifiable.

**Dick Nimmons**  
SEPTEMBER 9, 1970

PLEASE SEE **LETTERS** • PAGE 8



# Brunswickan will cease printing



**Nick Murray**  
THE BRUNSWICKAN

FREDERICTON (CUP) If you were planning on rushing to campus tomorrow to pick up your Wednesday coffee and a copy of *The Brunswickan*, let me save you the trip.

Unfortunately, as a result of the labour dispute between the university and the Association of University of New Brunswick Teachers (AUNBT), the *Brunswickan* has been forced to cease printing operations indefinitely. We will continue publishing exclusively online.

As many of you are undoubtedly aware, this is the first faculty strike in University of New Brunswick's history, and we've never dealt with a strike either. And like the labour dispute, ceasing our printing operations is because of one thing: money.

*The Brunswickan* operates on a not-for-profit basis and therefore our budget is based around breaking even every year. We have a great stream of advertising which feeds a chunk into our budget, but it's only one cog in the gears of how we operate. A large portion of our budget includes your student fee, but because of tuition not being paid, the university is unable to provide us with the student levy upon which we rely to operate.

Let me be clear, I'm not blaming this on you one bit. Your student newspaper is part of your university experience. And the heart of your university experience is your education. Why would you pay for classes which aren't being taught? You wouldn't, and you shouldn't. But when the heart stops, the rest of the body dies. It's just the way it is.

This isn't your fault. The total blame lies with those at the negotiation table, who for months couldn't shake hands on a deal.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

I've referenced the movie *The Score* in my last column and there's another movie quote which applies well to this situation: "A deal is only good if it leaves both parties feeling like they've given up something."

Personally, I'd like to see them add in a clause where the profs pay a media fee just like you guys because they read the *Brunswickan* too. But imagine. Asking for more money.

As I mentioned before, we do sell ads — such as the trademark Social Club banner on the cover — but it's not enough to cover the cost to print. With the student levy, we can cover all costs, because it makes up for what we lack in ad revenue. But given the uncertainty of the negotiations and how long they could potentially last, we made an executive and editorial decision not to print hard copies of the paper because we'd lose less money than we would by going online only. It's a lose-lose.

But by going exclusively online, we can continue to bring you up-to-the-minute strike coverage — which has been nothing short of stellar reporting and a huge win for student media — as well as everything you've come to expect from us.

Our focus is, and has always been, to enhance your experience at UNB

with informative and entertaining news from around campus. We will continue to do so without the luxury of a hard-copy newspaper. We will continue to dig into the labour dispute, and continue to be first at breaking stories and updates as they happen. We will hold off as long as we can and find every means necessary to keep operating, but the longer this strike drags on, the worse off we all are as a UNB community.

This labour dispute has rippled to every corner of this campus, and at the core of it all is your education. While the *Brunswickan* will remain impartial to any one side in this dispute, as to continue to provide fair, balanced and unbiased coverage of the strike and lock-out, we can only hope for a resolution where both sides walk away from the table without having received every one of their demands. There's no scenario where any one side truly comes out ahead, but at the end of the day it's the students who suffer.

Mick Jagger and the Rolling Stones said it best: you can't always get what you want. But if you try sometimes, well, you might find you get what you need.

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OPINION MEETINGS THURSDAYS AT 4 P.M. AT 3-04 SUB

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## Catcalling is not a compliment



**Darcy Ropchan**  
OPINION EDITOR

I used to think that catcalling was such an innocent exercise. After all, what better way is there to let some random person on the street know you find them desirable? I used to think it was the only way to express my sexual frustration to strangers, until I had it happen to me. I was catcalled by a group of rambunctious girls in a car and I didn't like it at all. Now I know what ladies have been going through all this time.

First, it's necessary to set the scene of my humiliation. It was a Saturday night and I was meandering around Jasper Ave. on my way to a social function. The party I was attending required formal attire, and I pulled out all the stops and was dressed to impress — imagine a mix between Don Draper and Pierce Brosnan. That's how I imagine it, anyways. I spent hours working on my hair, bleaching my teeth and performing my vigorous facial scrubbing routine — go big or go home is my motto.

I'm crossing the intersection on Jasper Avenue and 101 Street when a car of four ladies rolls down its windows and one of them yells something sexually suggestive while honking their horn at me. The only words I could make out were "sexy" and "boi" — at least I'm pretty sure that's how they pronounced it. I was taken aback and left unable to come

up with a witty retort. The car sped away when the light turned green and I was left to pick up the pieces of my broken psyche.

Women everywhere should know that catcalling is definitely not the way to let a man know you're interested, even if seems like the appropriate thing to do in that situation. I'm no stranger to yelling sexual comments to passersby on the street — I used to work in construction — but I feel like it's my duty to get the word out to the larger female population that this is not okay.

People around me keep telling me that I should feel flattered by those catcalls — like it's some kind of amazing compliment. Maybe I should, it's not like I regularly turn heads when I'm strutting down the street. But to tell you the truth, I don't feel flattered at all. I feel objectified and bullied. Sure, these women may have been trying to compliment me in a strange way, but it just ends up sounding barbaric.

Perhaps the worst part about this situation is that these girls turned me into nothing more than an object with their sexual leering — just a male piece of meat and nothing more. Yeah, they may have been trying to express their admiration for the clothes I was wearing or the way my hair was combed or the boyish charm I emit, but I'm so much

more than that. It feels so shallow to only be wanted for your looks. I'm so much more than just a good suit and a confident stride. I have thoughts, opinions and desires that are important. I'm not here to be your eye candy.

There's absolutely no reason why we can't have positive, non-sexual catcalling. Those girls could have paid me a real compliment by sticking their heads out the window and yelling something like, "Hey boy, you look like you read a lot of books and have a pretty decent GPA. May I take you on a date?" Or something like, "Hello person who I don't mind admitting is quite handsome, but don't mean to offend. You look like a guy who's backpacked through Europe once or twice. Would you like to walk up Whyte Ave. and then drink coffee in an independent hipster book store?" I would love to hear things like that on the street. However, I must settle for "compliments" like, "Hey, boy" and "Work it sexy." It makes me shudder.

Ladies, next time you feel like catcalling a random guy on the street because you think he's hot, don't do it. In no way, shape or form is it a compliment. No man is ever happy or flattered to have some disgusting sexual drivel yelled at him by a passerby. It's time to grow up and realize that real beauty comes from within.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

### Don't drink the water

Just now I am in the hospital as a result of drinking poisoned water. The crucial moment has past, however, and I expect to rejoin my unit in a day or so. The other Varsity lads are not far from us here, but we never see anything of them.

**Pte. A. E. Metcalf**  
NOVEMBER 1, 1915

Letters to the editor should be sent to

[letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca) (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

I don't know about you people, but I have absolutely zero motivation to trudge through the rest of this already horrendously semester. I just don't want to. Everyday on the way to school, I often ponder what the point of all this is. Maybe it would be easier to pack up all my shit and get a job up north. Maybe I should fake my death and travel the world.

Other times I think I should take up the family business and run the farm. I could grow potatoes, corn and cattle. It doesn't seem that hard.





PHOTO: KEVIN SCHENK

# The crumbling debate between soft and hard cookies

Cookies need to be soft and chewy to be enjoyed properly



Paige Gorsak  
POINT

As I write this, I'm biting into a freshly baked and perfectly ooey-gooey chocolate chip cookie. With only a slightly hardened exterior and a soft, indulgent middle, I'm in heaven. People who don't like soft cookies are crazy. They can go burn in hell with their stupid burnt cookies.

Now maybe that sounds extreme, but I personally believe that if you like crunchy cookies, you're a masochist. Every time I bite into one of those crunchy bastards, I completely tear up the roof of my mouth and gums, with pain subsuming the sugary enjoyment I hoped to get with my dessert. Not to mention the crumbs! They get everywhere — down your shirt, into the cracks of your laptop keyboard, all over the person beside you. There's none of that unpleasant business when you encounter a cookie that wasn't cooked until it was a dead turd. Soft cookies offer a clean and comfortable eating experience, allowing you to savour the deliciousness of your snack. Their chewy, soft texture allows you to appreciate the complex flavours of your baking — these are cookies for the true cookie connoisseur.

Plus, if we're getting into classy cookies, just think of cookie establishments. When have you gone to a proper cookie store and encountered a tough, inedible, crumbly mess? To all you U of A students, just imagine a Cookies By George cookie versus the stale, three-week-old

monstrosities they sell at coffee shops. There's a reason the cookie shop is it's own entity — so that no one must endure the horror that is an over-done cookie.

▪ **Soft cookies offer a clean and comfortable eating experience, allowing you to savour the deliciousness of your snack. Their chewy, soft texture allows you to appreciate the complex flavours of your baking — these are cookies for the true cookie connoisseur.**

Some people might argue that certain cookie types are better when crunchy, but these people are liars and you should ignore them. I acknowledge that Oreos are crunchy when you first buy them, but that's why they're advertised with glasses of milk for dipping — to *soften* them. And ginger snaps? Really? The "snap" is not for coarse texture of a burnt dessert, it's for the shock of flavour you get from the snappy cinnamon and ginger flavours, neither of which is even apparent when your mouth is full of crumbs. No, a true ginger snap — or ginger-molasses cookie — won't disintegrate when you take a bite. It will melt in your mouth, it will need milk only to complement its sugary goodness, it will be delicious. Not a charred, crispy mistake.

There is nothing I love more than some crunchy cookies



Kevin Schenk  
COUNTERPOINT

I happened on a regular Friday night late last year. Like most people, I spend my Friday nights eating entire boxes of cookies while watching *Ugly Betty* reruns. Chips Ahoy are my usual poison, so I didn't pay much attention to the packaging when I bought them. Later that night, I bit into one. My teeth sank into the cookie with little resistance. There was no familiar crunch, just an unsatisfying squeak before it turned into mush. They were a new, chewy variety, dreamed up by Nabisco R&D to appease the incorrect masses. No amount of Betty Suarez's misadventures could save my mood after that horrible experience.

Much like I prefer my coffee hot, I prefer my biscuits baked. But some people not only eat half-baked cookies, they actually prefer them that way. A quick survey of the Gateway office revealed that I'm in the minority. This explains all those times I've baked cookies according to a recipe only to have to throw them back in the oven for another 20 minutes.

Baking a cookie caramelizes its sugars and browns the outside. The browning is caused by the Maillard chemical reaction, giving baked goods their distinct flavour. Taking the cookie out of the oven too early prevents the Maillard reaction, and all you're left with is a pale, bland piece of slightly dehydrated dough. Those that purposely commit this baking faux pas may as

well serve raw cookie dough, because if there's one thing we can all agree on, it's that cookie dough is delicious.

Cookies without crunch are like music without the bass. Correctly baking your cookies adds an auditory experience to your dessert. And let's not forget that soft cookies barely hold any liquid when dunked in coffee. Ginger snaps earned their name for a reason: the snaps release an explosion of flavour when you snap off a piece with your teeth. They're boring if someone hasn't baked them long enough, a risk I go through every time I eat one.

▪ **Much like I prefer my coffee hot, I prefer my biscuits baked. But some people not only eat half-baked cookies, they actually prefer them. A quick survey of the Gateway office revealed that I'm in the minority.**

I know there are other people out there that dread those awkward moments at potlucks when soft cookie bakers ask you how you think their cookies taste. It's time we stop sacrificing our culinary integrity. Tell them their cookies are boring. Ask them if their oven broke halfway through baking them. Buy them a beginner's guide to baking. Otherwise, those preaching the soft cookie agenda will get their way and it won't be long until even our biscotti go limp.

#3LF

three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at [threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca), tweet @threelinesfree or message us at [www.gtwy.ca/threelinesfree](http://www.gtwy.ca/threelinesfree)

What a disgrace. Disfigurement. Ahh the Rage. The Horror. An Atrocity. GET OUT. OUT OF MY FACE. You have ruined my beloved Gateway passtime. *scowls*	did anyone see the bus driver close the door on my arms last week?	Wanted: need drummer for my family's barber shop quartet. Want to re-define the quartet scene. Tip-based pay; road snacks provided.	Damn you Moffat!	What is this
Why am I so bad at words and talking?	I'm dying on the inside.	alan moore... are you subversive or an eloquent fetishist?	Did you miss me? ~Moriarty	Missed Connection: I saw you behind the glass, you glistened in the light. I put my loonie in the machine but you got stuck on the coil.
Such a babe with all your gear on. Take it off. I'll bring the tight Lulu. It comes off.	Slipped in the shower. Arm went in the toilet. Proud day.	She's out of my league. 20,000 leagues under the sea that is.	Moffucked.	They were soft. Fuck that noise.
I will always be there	cig lit against the winter cold, she drops a file folder two fingers thick into a flaming trash can. "sorry, kiddies," she says, "you didn't make the cut." the label reading "3LF" curls, blackens, and puffs away.	dark-haired chick with glasses, sitting beside the blonde at the bears hockey game on saturday...you're hot!	I'm not a hero, I'm a high-functioning sociopath. Merry Christmas!	What is wring with you?
Dear 3LF girl, you're beyond awesome	Sold drugs during break	yay oilers! fuck you crosby	How 'bout those hardcore light flurries we had today. woow.	Coworker brought in cookies today. I was cured alright.
She's so pre-tty~! I should ask her out instead of sound-ing like an i-d-iot~!	Cocaine payed for second term	every time i see my own 3lf i get a huge rush. how lame am i?	If you really want to test if 3LF submissions are screened, submit something racist, sexist, libelous, homophobic or otherwise hateful in nature.	There is no debate between hard or soft cookies.
i took another happiness survey once... my result? "boiled prawn" :( :(	Let it snow white blow	You're not lame. You're the coolest person I know. I hope you enjoy the rush friend. See you next week.	Edmonton proverb: Those who do not push never get on the crowded LRT.	I want to run far, far away from here.
remember "the ruins"?	Thanks for the crossword Gateway! Testicles.	Binary solo! 00000001 00000011 00000111 00001111 00000001 00000011 00000111 00001111	When did superheroes stop flying and just start smiling?	The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF submission it deems racist, sexist, libellous, homophobic or otherwise hateful in nature. It's a new year and I want us to all try being nicer to each other. I know things aren't working out between me and your mom, but that doesn't mean I love you any less. Things are different now and you're only going to see me every week. Be nice to everyone you meet. Make me proud.
Butts	Just because you're inept at finding a clitoris doesn't mean it's non-existent.	Too tired to cry,	Damn you George R.R. Martin and your Game of Thrones	
Kalopsia	Yes it does. If I can't see it, it's not real	Homework and exams pile,	Edmonton proverb: Those who do not push never get on the crowded LRT.	
romance tontine! last couple still together by the end of the year blows the prize on sex toys!	I did not realize you were hitting on me. But now I'm sure hitting myself.	Awaiting the end.	Fuck	
	Cunts	Rhymenoceros	Can somebody PLEASE murder my vagina?	
		Far from shore	I can attempt to murder it	
		The land of nightmares	I say I want a gentleman but sometimes being a lady is exhausting.	
		Gone forever more	Like at parties, for example.	
		Foreskin	Is it Wonderful?	



# It's time for men to grow up and buy properly fitting pants



**Kate Black**  
ONLINE EDITOR

I never considered myself an ass admirer. That was, at least, until I saw a man butt that rocked my world.

I'm a girl with a fairly flat butt despite the minutes I log on the elliptical or embarrassing sets I put into the squat rack. By virtue of that, I've often questioned (read: denied) the importance of having a killer ass as a key component to an otherwise rockin' bod. But all of my self-denial was changed forever when I saw the dude butt that changed my life forever.

Strangely enough, this butt wasn't even Kim Kardashian-perky or power-lifter-firm. It was just nice. The one factor that set this particular butt apart from the rest of the butts I've seen was the fact that it was perfectly outfitted by a good-quality pair of chinos. So this got me thinking: are there better butts out there? Day in and day out, I walk among the asses of the rest of my peers, and, sadly, a lot of the male-identified butts out there are cloaked by drapey- and ill-fitting denim.

What kills me is that I'll never be able to tell whether the asses around



**BABY GOT BACK** Wear some proper fitting jeans so I can get a gander at that butt.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: SUPPLIED

me are hard 10s or soft fours, because all of them are hanging listless in like two handfuls of khaki. Close your eyes and imagine, just for a moment, how many gorgeous rear ends the world is missing out on just because their handlers don't dress them properly. So here's my plea, fellas: start wearing pants that fit right.

And why wouldn't you? If you work out on the regular, show off

your hard work and rock a booty that your other brothers can't deny. And if you don't work out, at least you'll have a well-defined butt going for you if you spend more than 15 minutes trying on jeans at Sears.

Let's take a moment to consider what your pants-buying experience looks like. If you rush into the store and pick out a pair without trying it on, or even worse, try them on and don't consider the merits of how they cling to your butt, you're doing it wrong. Finding a good pair of pantaloons is like buying fruit — if you're a really careful and diligent fruit-buyer, that is — and can take hours, across multiple stores. Don't even think of asking your mom to do this for you, either — that's just embarrassing.

Also, for the love of god, please wear a belt. There is nothing more unfortunate than seeing a man's ass crack. I mean, there's no excuse to be wearing pants that are so loose around your waist that the entire room can see your rectum when you bend over. Put something — a belt, shoelace, dental floss, anything — around your waist as a precaution in case your pants fall asunder in a public situation.

Listen, you're a grown-ass man, in all senses of the adjective, and it's time to man up about your pants-wearing situation. I'm not guaranteeing that putting in the extra effort will automatically score you more action or attention. I just have a good feeling that when you do your booty right, magic can happen.



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PHOTO: SUPPLIED

**the burlap sack**

COMPILED BY **Michelle Mark**

Gather round, one and all, and listen to the tale of the infamous Remedy Ass Bandit — or rather, how I was terrorized by a pantsless man in a café last month. No one deserves to be stuffed into a burlap sack more than him.

On a December day when you were likely home studying for finals, I was holed up in the corner of a booth on the second floor of Remedy Cafe on 109 St. Innocently studying, imagine my surprise when I looked up and saw that the man sitting perpendicular to me was grinning at me like Satan himself, and had his pants pulled down around his knees and his bare ass smothering the vinyl booth.

For me, this raised a significant ethical dilemma. What do you do in the face — or ass — of a pantsless man? Is there a pantsless protocol? Should there be?

Do you confront him about his wardrobe malfunction? What if he gets angry and murders you? Do you get up and leave? What if he follows you? Do you sit there for an hour and pretend nothing's happening? That's what I did. I sat for

an hour in the putrid glow of this man's shining, globular ass.

But then it got worse. This anus wasn't content to sit there, grinning and pantsless. He took it a step further, and believe me — no amount of social conditioning can prepare you for the moment when a stranger leans over, cocks his ass in your direction like a rocket launcher and starts slapping it at you. I can still hear the smacking sound of his palm rapidly striking his ass cheek over and over. *Spank spank spank*.

But don't worry. He eventually pulled up his pants and left when some friends came to my rescue. And yeah, you'd better believe I told the Remedy staff to bleach the shit out of that booth afterwards.

So, for causing me both hygienic anxiety and considerable social distress, I'm not merely tossing this wiener in the Burlap Sack this week — I'm dropkicking him in, setting it on fire and heaving it off a mountaintop. That fucking ass.

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered. We're not going to beat you like this man beat his ass with his hands.*





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Written by **Andrew Jeffrey** • Illustrations by **Jessica Hong**  
Layout/design by **Anthony Goertz**

Come January of every new year, the staff at Edmonton's Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS) take a much-needed breather as the population of people coming through their doors subsides slightly. Through December's holiday season, YESS experiences their biggest influx of youth of any other time of the year. While many of these teenagers can often find shelter at a friend's house if they need to, it's more difficult during the holidays with relatives

visiting and family plans. This leaves many people with nowhere to go, no family to visit with themselves and a reminder that they don't have those same holiday experience to look forward to as their peers.

Many of these vulnerable, homeless youth — some of whom may come back to YESS in January for lack of anywhere else to go — will go unnoticed by the rest of Edmonton's population. Rather than a public street corner, they may go back to couch surfing at their friends' homes — always with-

out a permanent place of their own to stay, always feeling the risk they may get kicked out any moment. These are the invisible, hidden homeless youth of Edmonton, the most vulnerable teenagers and young adults in the city. Some of them may even attend high school or university just like their peers, but face a much different day-to-day reality than their classmates.

"A police officer came here and told us about a gang called The Family and what they were doing was targeting kids who were coming to our building and finding it closed."

- **Freddy Damani**  
Communications Coordinator,  
Youth Empowerment and Support Services

## YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN THE CITY OF CHAMPIONS

Having services available for the youngest and therefore most vulnerable homeless population is vital to those who work directly with these youth or who spend their time researching their plight. Stephen Gaetz, Director of Homeless Hub, the Canadian Homelessness Research Network, has done a great deal of research directly related to youth homelessness in an attempt to study the factors and causes that lead to these tragic situations.

"(We need to focus) more on preventing young people from becoming homeless in the first place and intervening very early when they become homeless," Gaetz says. "Often, we take the adult models of responding to homelessness and just create homelessness junior by changing the age mandate. So a lot of the adult approaches, even transitional

housing, may give you one or two years of support. That might be sufficient for an adult, but for a young person, that's not good enough.

"We should build our response to youth homelessness around how we think about what any young person needs, which is the time to grow up, support to go to school, support as long as you need it (and) the ability to make mistakes."

This is a mandate that organizations such as YESS have embraced wholeheartedly. Taking in people ranging from ages 15-19, as well as 20 and 21 year olds who don't have the life skills to take care of themselves, YESS opens its doors every day at 9 p.m. to youth who have nowhere else to spend the night.

The shelter takes in youth on a first come, first serve basis, providing them with a place to spend the night, a meal and a fresh laundry service. The next morning, they leave with a bagged lunch and two bus tickets to get them to school, work or wherever else they may spend the day.

YESS isn't the only option for those who are homeless, and according to Freddy Damani, YESS' Communications Coordinator, there are a "mosaic of services" in Edmonton available to the public. Aside from the resources at YESS, people can also receive help from organizations such as The Mustard Seed or Boyle Street, which help homeless people of all ages, or the Terra Centre, which exists to help young mothers specifically.

However, when it comes to youth, YESS is the most all-encompassing service available in Edmonton. The former youth emergency shelter moved away

from its shelter model with a name change in 2012 to instead focus on its current model of rapid re-housing, advertising itself as somewhere youth can go to help get back on their feet. Some only need to use the service for a place to sleep for the night, or with a little help from YESS, they can work out problems at home, the police can be called to deal with abuse and more permanent shelter can quickly be found. Others are assessed by a care worker and are entered into longer term care, where counselors work with kids everyday to help them recover on a psychological level from issues such as the emotional trauma of abuse, drug addiction or self-harm.

"If we find out a youth has a little more issues and we find they can't get back home, so there's no rapid re-housing, we focus on bringing them here," Damani said. "These kids don't have to leave the next morning. They're typically the youth who need more work. They may have drug issues or they're dealing with severe abuse. We focus on connecting with them on a psychological level, because there's often been years of abuse there and a lot of baggage that they carry."

Possibly the biggest challenge facing the community outreach staff at YESS is convincing youth that YESS is a necessary service to help them get off the streets or find a better home. This often means not just convincing the troubled youth themselves, but also raising the reputation of the service enough that any friends these youth have would recommend they call YESS for help.

The youth who use YESS make up a wide demographic ranging from those who've been living on the street to those who need to get away from an abusive home. Damani remembers one youth that drove himself to their shelter, and another who had a friend from work drop her off every night. One was a kid from a high socioeconomic background, the other had a paying job, but

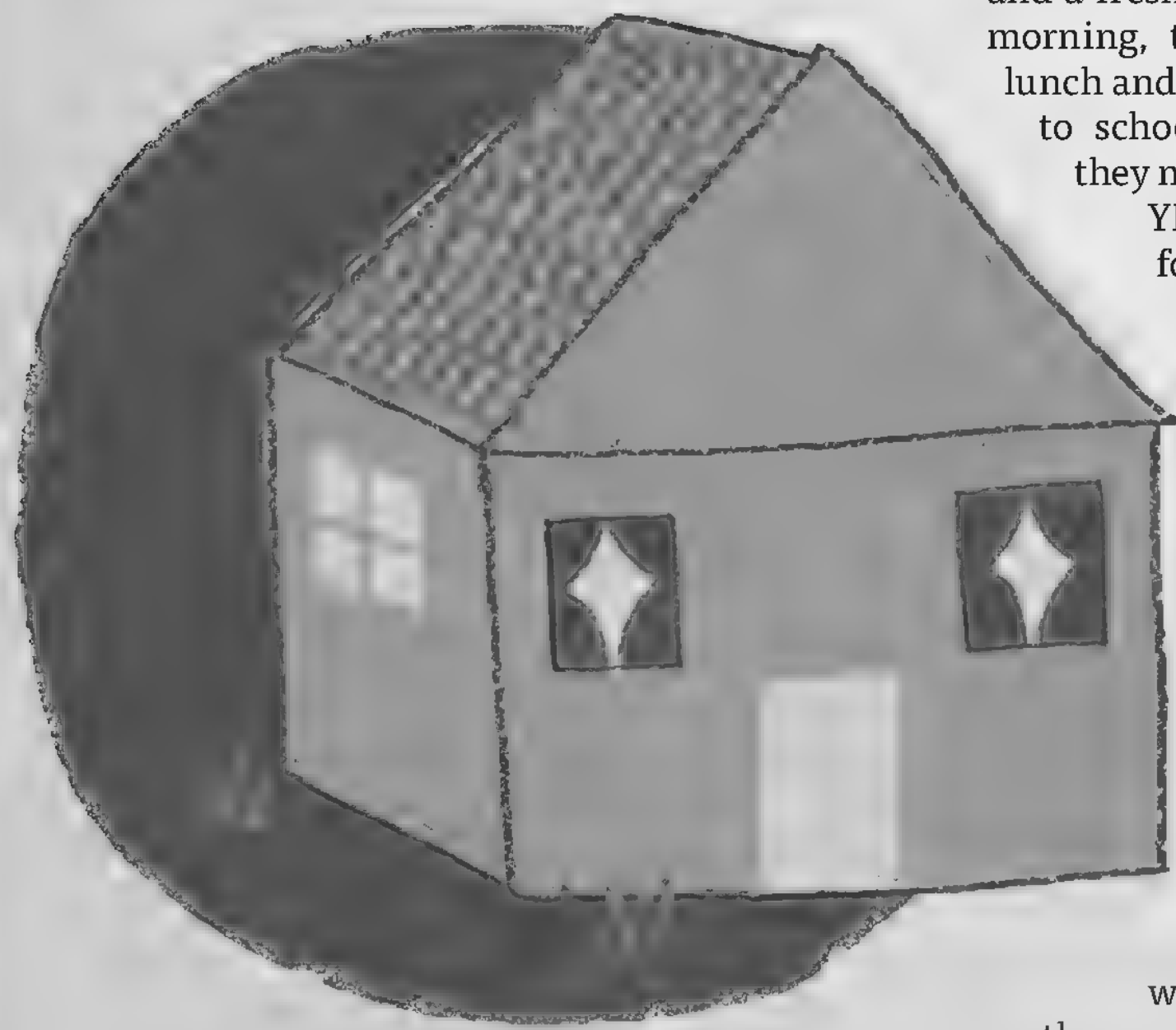
both couldn't face going home due to an abusive household.

Homeless youth that can't be convinced to come to YESS so easily become vulnerable to YESS' major competition: Edmonton's illegal activity.

"A police officer came here and told us about a gang called The Family and what they were doing was targeting kids who were coming to our building and finding it closed," Damani recalls. "It was wintertime outside and they would basically come up to the kids with a soft sell: 'What are you guys doing here? It's freezing outside, you shouldn't be on the street. We have an extra couch, you can sleep on it if you want. All that we ask is you run a couple errands for us.' Next thing you know, youth are transporting drugs and we've had youth get hurt, end up in drugs houses where they get attacked."

A shortfall in fundraising means that YESS' Armoury Resource Centre located just off Whyte Ave., which usually gives youth a place to go during the day, now opens its doors at 1 p.m. each day instead of 9 a.m. This means youth have nowhere to go during anchor hours that could decide what they spend the rest of their day doing. According to Damani, 76 per cent of homeless youth claim to have experienced an attack while they were living on the street, while 50 per cent claim to have experienced an attack involving a weapon. Because of this, some can't fall into a full sleep because of the psychological trauma that comes with the fear of living out on the street.

"That's who we're competing against. Gangs, people who commit human trafficking, people engaged in abuse or prostitution," Damani explains. "So we have to be just as easy to access, if not easier, to those people, and we have to have options to be here during the day or be engaged in positive activities, otherwise these kids are going to go find shelter."





## HIDDEN STUDENT HOMELESSNESS

The side to homelessness that many people — students especially — may not think about is what happens when their own peers in class don't have a place to stay. According to the Homeless Hub, more than 80 per cent of homelessness in Canada can be identified as hidden rather than absolute homelessness. While the absolute homeless have no shelter at all and access more homelessness support and services, the hidden homeless are those who find more creative ways to spend the night, such as couch-surfing at a friend's house or spending the night in a university building like SUB, which is open 24 hours.

This is a complicated issue in Edmonton, as older university students are faced with rising tuition and high residency costs, all while living in a city that has the second lowest vacancy rate of any major centre in Canada. All together, this can create a perfect storm of negative factors that hurt students' chances at finding housing. They're not openly, absolutely homeless with nowhere to go and may not even see themselves as homeless, but they have no legal right to any shelter and are still at risk and potentially in need of more assistance to help them re-house and get back on their feet.

This situation is complicated further by the fact that it's nearly impossible to quantify the exact number of youth in this situation, since many of them may not even identify themselves as homeless.

"I think people would think it's different, because people have an image in their mind of somebody dirty with ragged clothes, or somebody who's drug addicted or has mental health problems, and think that's a homeless person and not somebody else," Gaetz explains. "Most people who are homeless in university, I think most people wouldn't recognize them to look at them as being homeless. Unless you saw them at night sleeping on a couch, but then you'd think it's just a student pulling an all-nighter."

Assuming someone asleep on campus or on

their friend's couch is only a student cramming for a test or finishing an essay that's due the next day is oftentimes all that the situation is. But for some students, these temporary forms of shelter can become long-running patterns that can easily go unnoticed by their peers at university.

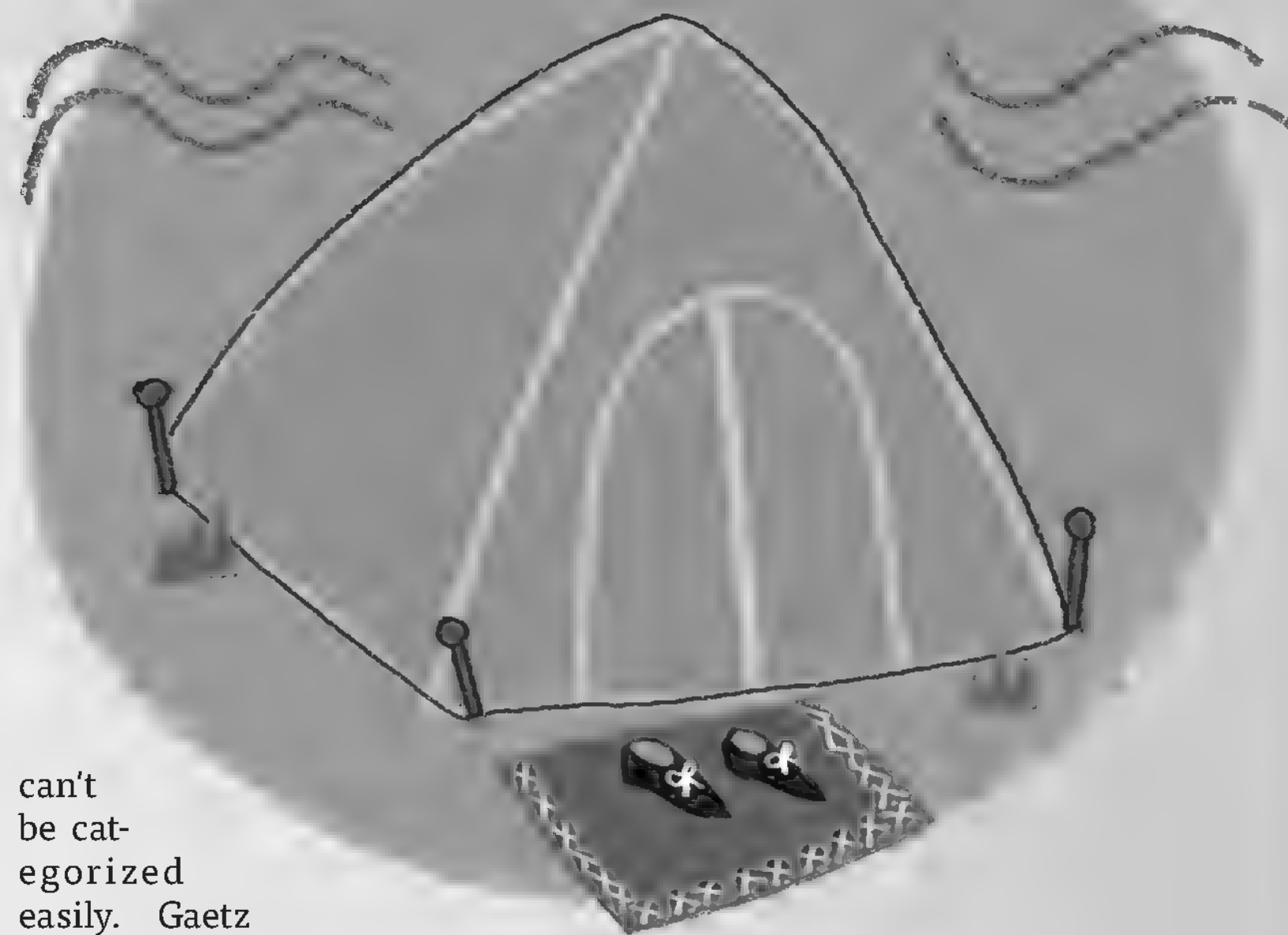
The issue is no different at the University of Alberta than at any other university in Canada. Different initiatives have come into play at the U of A to bring the plight of homeless youth in Edmonton to the forefront, and there are a number of financial aid and services available to students who need assistance when they can't afford their own home. Homelessness is slowly becoming a more prevalent issue for Edmontonians, and this includes the staff at the U of A taking notice of the issue.

A more specific and experienced view on what the U of A offers to help comes from one of the U of A's Community Social Workers, Michelle Holubitsky, whose team helps give support to students of all backgrounds who are in need of service, including providing support for them in issues of housing. She says what becomes clear in dealing with so many students is that the stereotype of what student life is like is not always as completely accurate as some assume.

"The transient nature of being a student in that students come from September to April, should be able to find housing, (then) head home for the summer. We look at it very black and white, that stereotype of a student," Holubitsky said.

"From being a single mother or issues at home to just wanting to be an independent 20-something-year-old, to more extremes of domestic violence, to not having enough money ... Every single student that I've worked with or my colleagues have worked with, those compounding factors are different for each person."

This potential stereotype of what student life and homelessness are tend to blind most people to the reality that everyone's situation is different and the factors that lead to homelessness



can't be categorized easily. Gaetz is particularly adamant about the negative effects these stereotypes have when combined under youth homelessness.

"A lot of people's views on youth homelessness are shaped by prejudices of young people intersecting with prejudices about homelessness," Gaetz said. "If you see young people, particularly young people coming from a different background, as being dangerous or lazy or moody — all those ideas we have of delinquent youth — and you have those ideas intersecting with very popular notions of people who are homeless choose to be homeless, don't want to work, lack motivation, just want to take it easy, are looking for kicks, drug-seeking, then you have a very negative representation of who is young and homeless."

**"A lot of people's views on youth homelessness are shaped by prejudices of young people intersecting with prejudices about homelessness."**

**- Stephen Gaetz**  
Director, Homeless Hub

## EDMONTON'S FUTURE

Those negative ideas get in the way of important policy shifts to help curb homelessness and prevent some people who believe in those representations from understanding how youth get in that position in the first place. But while this issue can't be expected to improve in the near future with rising housing costs, there is important work being done in Edmonton to help the homeless population.

Edmonton has made strides in its 10-year plan to end homelessness, along with the U of A's own 5 Days for the Homeless initiative organized by a group of business students each year. This year, there's also a new plan to have several ALES students help volunteer at The Mustard Seed.

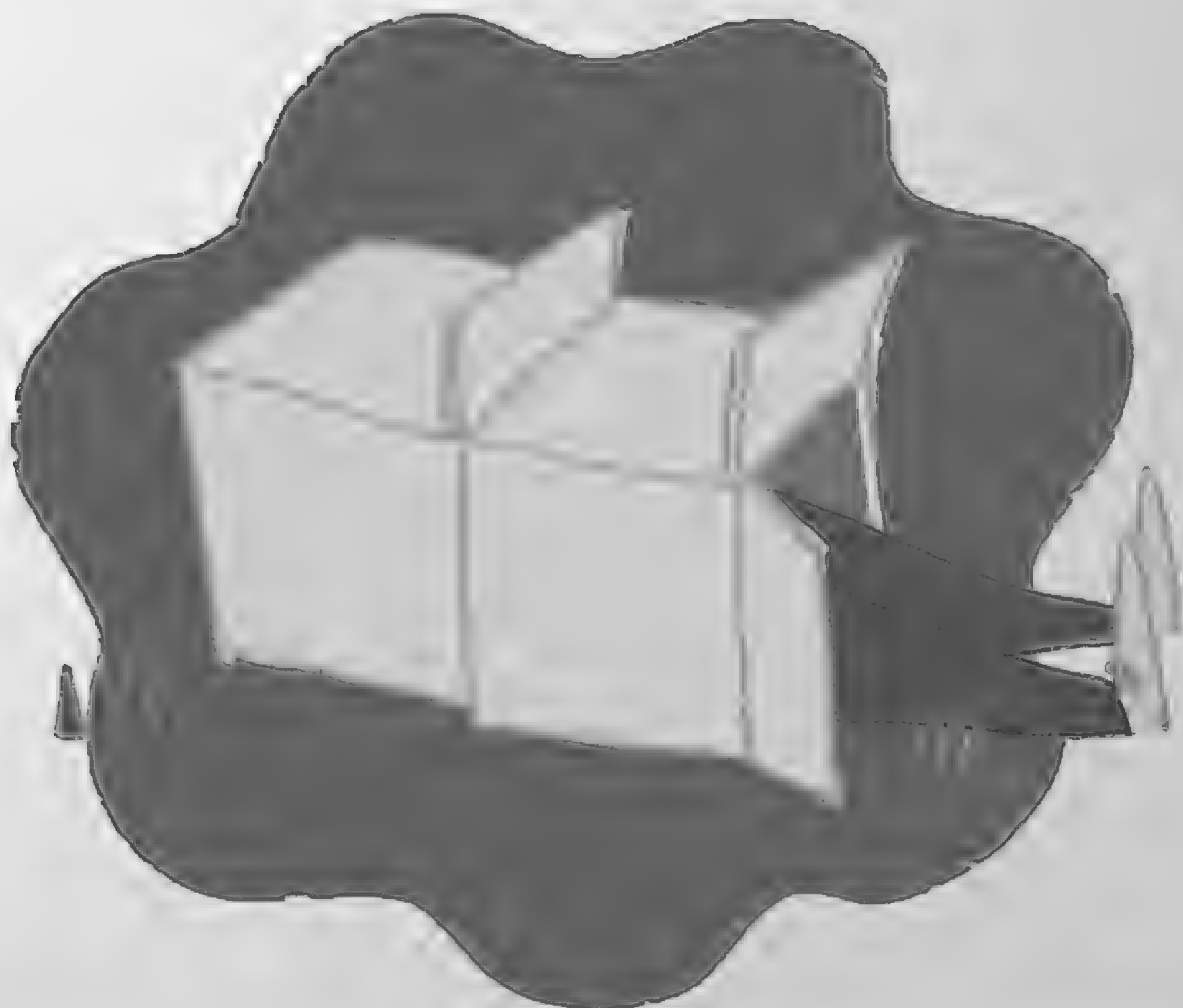
There are also a number of organizations to volunteer with or donate towards in Edmonton, including YESS, the Mustard Seed, Terra Centre or Boyle Street. A service such as YESS thinks of itself as doing more for homeless youth now than under its former typical emergency shelter model. The centre has committed itself to providing a full range of services to help homeless youth on the streets and provides them with an opportunity to live as full a life as they can in their present situation.

The dedication and lengths the staff at YESS go to for the youth they help is what initially inspired Damani to start working for this non-profit organization despite having no experience in the field when he returned to Edmonton from the United States. He specifically remembers the moment he decided to get involved with YESS when he initially toured their facility, which convinced him there was much more to these shelters than he originally thought.

"There was a wedding dress and I made a joke, 'You donate this to a homeless youth, what are we going to see a kid walking around in this on the street?' I thought it was almost inconsiderate. The staff told me there was two kids who graduated their programs and wanted to get married, the girl was pregnant and they couldn't afford the wedding and they were going to have to wait until after (the child's birth). So the staff fundraised within themselves — not taking any money from the agency — got her a wedding dress, got him a tuxedo, got the bridesmaids and groomsmen all dressed up in their stuff. We hosted it at the Armoury Resource Center, made it a red carpet affair," Damani recalls.

"When I was in Miami, you were lucky to get a sandwich at a homeless shelter.

New clothing? Forget about it. Having a wedding when you couldn't afford it? That's really helping dreams come true for kids. It really shows the heart this agency has and the mantra this agency has which is more than just shelter, food and bandages. If shelter and food solved all of life's problems, this world would be a different place."





# Arts & Culture

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A & C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m.  
in 3-0 4, SUB. C'mon by!

## social intercourse

COMPILED BY Annie Pumphrey

### Danse Lhasa Danse

Thursday, Jan. 16 at 7:30 p.m.  
The Arden Theatre (5 Anne St., St. Albert)  
Tickets \$25 for students at ticketmaster.ca

Lhasa de Sela was a Juno award-winning folk musician who died four years ago from cancer at the age of 37. In celebration of her work, Quebec's PPS Danse company has created a performance tour of 17 artists that combines dance, film, music and spoken word in tribute to the singer. This special piece will be performed for one night at the Arden Theatre this weekend. Choreographed by Canadian artist Pierre-Paul Savoie, *Danse Lhasa Danse* is a powerful tribute that reflects the vision, devotion and soul of Lhasa de Sela.

### Celebrate Robert Burns

Sunday, Jan. 19 from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
Rutherford House (11153 Saskatchewan Dr.)  
Admission \$3 – \$4 at the door

Whether you know him as Robden of Solway Firth, Ploughman Poet, Scotland's favourite son, Bard of Ayrshire or just plain ol' Robbie Burns, this is the time of year for celebrating the famous Scottish poet. Join the plaid-clad folks at Rutherford House this weekend as they commemorate Robbie Burns Day. Listen to bagpipes, hear readings of Burns' celebrated poetry and watch traditional Scottish dancers. The highlight of the day will be the "Address to the Haggis," a tradition where a Scottish man recites a poem to a sheep's stomach. This daytime event differs from the evening dinner party, also held in Burns' honour. More info is available at [history.alberta.ca/rutherford](http://history.alberta.ca/rutherford).

### 100 mile house

Presented by Northern Lights Folk Club  
Saturday, Jan. 18 at 7 p.m.  
Queen Alexandra Community Hall  
(10425 University Ave.)  
Tickets \$22 at [tixonthesquare.ca](http://tixonthesquare.ca), \$25 at the door

100 mile house is more than just a town in British Columbia. It's also the name of award-winning husband and wife folk duo Peter Stone and Denise MacKay's band, a harmonious folk-roots group who will perform this weekend at Queen Alexandra Hall. These Edmontonian artists have recently released their latest album *Wait With Me*, which won this year's Calgary Folk Festival Songwriting contest and debuted as the number one album in Alberta on CKUA.

### The Frequency of Water

Written by Carol Murray-Gilchrist  
Directed by Maralyn Ryan  
Starring Dave Horak, Michele Vance-Hehir, Jack Walker and Emma Walker  
Friday, Jan. 17 – Sunday, Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m.;  
Saturday and Sunday shows at 2 p.m.  
Arts Barns, PCL Studio (10330 84 Ave.)  
Tickets \$18 for students at [tickets.fringetheatre.ca](http://tickets.fringetheatre.ca)

We drink it, we bathe in it, we swim in it and it makes up 60 per cent of our bodies. *The Frequency of Water*, by Alberta playwright Carol Murray-Gilchrist, explores the power of water and how it connects us all. Winner of a Sterling Award for Best New Play, *The Frequency of Water* follows a young man defending his thesis on the memory of water while struggling with past relationships and his understanding of science and religion. Local award-winning actor Dave Horak will star in the show.



SUPPLIED

## Hawksley Workman returns to dramatic tendencies in new rock 'n' roll cabaret

### THEATRE PREVIEW

### The God That Comes

CREATED BY > Hawksley Workman and Christian Barry

DIRECTED BY > Christian Barry

STARRING > Hawksley Workman

WHEN > Runs Wednesday, Jan. 15 Friday, Jan. 24 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 25 at 9 p.m.

WHERE > The Club, the Citadel Theatre (9828 101 A Ave.)

HOW MUCH > Tickets \$45 \$73.50 at the Citadel Box Office or [citadeltheatre.com](http://citadeltheatre.com)

### Brad Kennedy

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @HELLA\_BRAD

Many are familiar with the legend of Bacchus, the Roman deity of wine and revelry responsible for some of the most mythological parties in the ancient world. But few have heard the story of the Bacchanalian cults the way Canadian rock star Hawksley Workman tells it in his new theatre production, *The God That Comes*.

"It's a retelling of an old story by the poet Euripides, called *The Bacchae*," Workman says. "And it's a one-man rock 'n' roll cabaret for the theatre stage."

If you're not already interested, the plot only gets better from there:

"There's lots of drinking, lots of fucking — lots of what a morally righteous person would call all manner of indecencies," Workman hints mischievously.

The show is a hybrid of stand alone rock ballads woven around a loose framework of script that allows Workman to shift the story and improvise within the free-form narrative. No two shows are exactly the same; each has its own individual style depending on the way Workman decides to present the show's rollicking, wanton narrative for the evening. Since he also plays every character on stage, it's easy for him

to explore every possible mode of storytelling he desires.

It's hard to imagine someone more qualified than Workman, a notoriously theatrical glam rocker, bringing the performance of such an illustrious party animal to life.

"Being a rock 'n' roll artist, I've been in some ways a devout follower of Bacchus myself," Workman says. "And in my own way, I struggle with times of unmitigated self-expression, with wanting to give into these dark releases."

That theme of restraint and repression is one that runs heavily throughout the play, focusing on the story of King Pentheus of Thebes, an aging king obsessed with the preservation of his city's law and order. But when the young god Bacchus takes up residence on a nearby mountain, the king's control begins to weaken, and he impulsively attempts to take revenge on the god who threatens his way of life.

"By the end of it all, it gets less about the god and his carrying on, and more about this king, this man who is so wrapped up in all his self control and imposing his will on all his people," Workman says.

This interest in the character of King Pentheus has been a long-standing preoccupation for Workman, both personally and artistically. The frustrating nature of the monarch's petty obsession with controlling his populace reflects how Workman feels about many current global leaders in the world today.

"I didn't really want to write a rock 'n' roll opera that was fueled by all this anger — but at the same time, it was all I had in my tank," Workman explains.

"So when Christian Barry, my collaborator, brought this play along, I thought, 'Wow, this is absolutely something I can direct this angry feeling through,' and to quite productive ends."

Fans of Workman's earlier material as a musician will rejoice at the renewed degree of sensationalism the artist brings to the stage with *The God That Comes*. At the start of his career in the late '90s, Workman's stage antics were the cause of much controversy — flamboyant makeup, stripping on stage and a wardrobe

selection campier than Oscar Wilde's were all the norm for an early Hawksley Workman concert. Eventually, the artist says, he toned down the theatrics in an attempt to get people to pay more attention to his art instead of what he was wearing. But performing *The God That Comes* has given him an excuse to bring some of that wild, outrageous behavior back into his stage presence.

"It is, in many ways, a return to my roots. A welcome return," Workman says. "The show is a vehicle for a kind of performance intensity that I really get off on. Even in rock 'n' roll, I get to take breaks, you know? I get to breathe, and stop between songs, and address the audience — in many ways I'm in control of how time passes. But this show, it's like a toboggan ride. Once you get on, you're on until you reach the end."

■ **"Being a rock 'n' roll artist, I've been in some ways a devout follower of Bacchus myself. And in my own way, I struggle with times of unmitigated self-expression, with wanting to give into these dark releases."**

HAWKSLEY WORKMAN  
ACTOR AND MUSICIAN, *THE GOD THAT COMES*

*The God That Comes* certainly sounds like a wild, uninhibited celebration of the history of hedonism and the perils of repressive instincts. Workman himself can hardly contain his excitement to be out on tour with a production so near and dear to his heart.

"When you're performing, there's no room for thinking about yesterday or tomorrow. You can almost be no closer to living in the moment ... And when you perform something so new and different, like with *The God That Comes*, it's really moving. It's a pure experience, and a good one. I feel like this play is one of the best things I've ever done."





SUPPLIED

## A love letter to cheese: chewy, salty, sophisticated goodness



**Tamara Aschenbrenner**  
A&C COMMENTARY

To my dearest cheese,

I fear this profession will be too gooey, but I can't contain my feelings any longer. We've been soulmates from the beginning. Your simple cheddar form was all I knew growing up, and coming back to it is like coming home. And now that I'm older, I'm better able to appreciate all you have to offer.

You're by far the most succulent of all the dairy products — yes, even more than ice cream. Because you, my love, come in so many forms and can be enjoyed in so many ways. You come in many shapes and sizes: grated, cubed, melted, sliced, alone or on a sandwich, salad, cracker — too many to name. You're perfect for me anywhere, at any time, whether it be breakfast, lunch, dinner, dessert or a midnight snack. You're always up for any occasion, from a romantic cheese plate for two to cozying up on the couch with a pile of nachos. You're a comfort in so many ways.

For years, you've helped me to meet my daily dairy requirements and have supplied me with ample amounts of calcium. Every time

I move a bone or run my tongue across my teeth, I'm reminded of the part you've played in my life. I realize there are other daily requirements I must meet, that there may be such a thing as too much of a good thing. But I know you cause constipation only because you want to stay with me just a little longer.

Love always and forever,  
Your Tamara

### **Cavern** (#2, 10169 104 St.)

Hidden in a basement suite downtown, Cavern sources rare and hard-to-find cheeses from around the world. You can enjoy these cheeses in the restaurant and pair them with a recommended wine or beer, or take it home to indulge at your leisure. If you're feeling adventurous, you can assemble several interesting choices on a cheese board, such as the spicy, nutty Sbrinz from Switzerland or the brie-style Cendré des Prés with maple ash centre from Québec.

### **The Melting Pot** (2920 Calgary Trail)

The Melting Pot is the only restaurant in Edmonton that serves fondue exclusively, offering delicious cheese, entrée and dessert fondues at great prices. The numerous cheese fondue selections range from

classic cheddar to more adventurous flavours like the spinach and artichoke with Fontina and Butterkäse cheeses. They prepare the pot at your table and keep it warm on the built-in burner. It's usually served with bread, tortilla chips, a cup of vegetables and apple slices.

### **Corso 32** (10345 Jasper Ave.)

This downtown destination is one of the best restaurants in the city, partly because they make everything from scratch. A standout dish is the house-made goat ricotta, prepared with rosemary oil, Maldon sea salt and then topped with herb and garlic olive oil. This smooth and creamy concoction is served with crostinis.

### **Red Ox Inn** (9420 91 St.)

Located at the top of Connors Hill, this quaint fine-dining restaurant changes its menu often in order to showcase new dishes, techniques and ingredients. They support local producers such as The Cheesiry in Kitscoty, Alberta and local suppliers such as Cavern. Their dessert cheese plate usually consists of young pecorino with house-made apple Earl Grey jelly and assorted accompaniments such as candied walnuts and buttermilk crackers.

## ALBUM REVIEW



### **Coeur de pirate** **Trauma**

Dare to Care  
coeurdepirate.com

**Kaitlyn Grant**  
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Using only soaring vocals, a piano and strings, Francophone singer-songwriter Coeur de pirate strips back well-known songs to create a dream-like state in her latest album, *Trauma*. The album is the soundtrack for a medical TV drama in Quebec by the same name and features 12 English covers, ranging from Kenny Rogers' "Lucille" to Amy Winehouse's "You Know I'm No Good."

Despite its status as a soundtrack,

*Trauma's* invigorated new tracks feel useful on their own, proving Béatrice Martin's musical prowess as the album introduces new life to songs of different genres. She turns Kate and Anna McGarrigle's '90s pop hit "Heartbeats Accelerating" into a folk tune by stripping it down to a guitar and a backbeat. The National's "Slow Show" becomes a piano-driven ballad. Compositional changes are made throughout the album, creating a sense of déjà vu

that forces the listener to notice the distinct qualities Martin has included, if only to discover the song title.

The album's overall sound imparts a dreamy quality. Sounding like it was recorded in a room with good acoustics rather than in studio, *Trauma* feels intimate and personal. Getting lost in the lyrics is easy, as it feels like you've walked into a private performance by the songstress. The familiarity of the songs fused with their stripped back quality creates a nostalgic mood for the album.

*Trauma* concludes with Bon Iver's "Flume," which acts as a quietly triumphant finale for the dreamy atmosphere and emotions created throughout the album. While it was intended to score a TV show, the album proves that Coeur de pirate's talents extend beyond her signature Francophone work into captivating compositions and covers.

## fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Christina Varvis**

**Belinda Ongaro**  
SCIENCE I



**GATEWAY:** Describe what you're wearing.

**BELINDA:** I'm wearing some ankle boots, cheetah print tights and a dress that parallels the pattern on the tights. The dress was a Winners clearance rack purchase, the belt was a Boxing Day purchase from H&M and the jacket is from Forever 21 from the clearance rack. I'm definitely a clearance rack shopper.

**GATEWAY:** What are your favourite trends from 2013?

**BELINDA:** Anything high-waisted, and knee-high socks as well. I really enjoy retro-style, the '50s and '60s.



Check out [thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters](http://thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters) for more photos.





finer things

COMPILED BY Paige Gorsak

Season three of Sherlock

The final episode of the third season of BBC's *Sherlock* aired this past Sunday, bringing plot-twists and tears to fans of the show. Finishing off with a kickass finale, this latest triplet of episodes deserves accolades as one of 2014's Finer Things.

A new season of *Sherlock* always brings a familiar sensation of excitement, with its high quality production, well-crafted plot lines and evocative scripts. But they also signal loss: with only three episodes in each season, the hunger for more Sherlock is fleetingly satiated, before a mere three weeks has passed and we're back to waiting. To be fair, each episode is 89 minutes long, meaning that with high production value and often standalone plot lines, they're more like short films than average television episodes.

Returning to the scene of season

two's intense cliffhanger finale, the first episode takes fans back to Sherlock Holmes' apparent suicide and his mysterious reappearance in the cemetery as his friends mourn him. Pushing forward two years, London is full of new secrets and adventures: crime rates are raging for the unaided DI Lestrade, Molly Hooper finally has a serious boyfriend and John Watson? Well, Watson is engaged.

In general, season three feels introspective. Where the past two seasons seemed plot-driven, with each episode focusing on a particular mystery, season three fleshes out familiar characters into deeper and more meaningful detail, while new additions to the cast — including Mary Morstan, Watson's fiancée played by the cheeky Amanda Abbington — keep the show feeling progressive and forward-thrusting.

Beyond introspection, the show's writers have lightened up. The plot lines remain dark and even frightening at times, but I laughed more in each episode than I did in seasons one and two combined.

Plot-wise, I'll avoid spoilers, but with heart-wrenching twists

and dark villains, season three of *Sherlock* lives up to its predecessors and remains at the top of my list.

*The Finer Things* is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits point to a particularly relevant or pretentious example of art celebrating it for all of its subjective merit.



SUPPLIED



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**SCiP**  
Serving Communities  
Internship Program

the brew crew

WRITTEN BY Victoria Stowe

Winter Beard Double Chocolate Cranberry Stout

**Brewery:** Muskoka Brewery  
Gravenhurst, Ontario

**Available at:** Sherbrooke Liquor Store  
(11819 St. Albert Trail)

Christmas may be over, but it's still cold out, which means it's still the season for rich winter ales with holiday-themed ingredients. While other companies are producing vanilla-tinged spiced ales, the Muskoka Brewery from Gravenhurst, Ontario has created something entirely different.

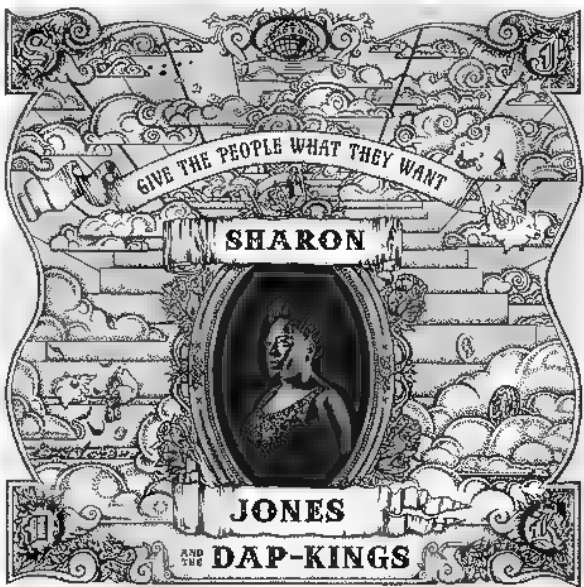
The Winter Beard Double Chocolate Cranberry Stout is brewed with dark chocolate malts, real cocoa, 70 per cent dark chocolate and locally harvested cranberries. The decadence is enhanced by the eight per cent alcohol by volume, while the vintage corked bottle makes Winter Beard a stylish choice to imbibe.



The beer pours like black tar, with a thin golden head. Chocolate dominates the aroma, like powdered cocoa. Although other cranberry ales have captured only one dimension of this bitter berry's flavor, Winter Beard effectively showcases the subtle astringency and acidity. There's a touch of sweetness, but not enough to make it taste like a Christmas cookie, making this a very well-rounded brew.

This beer will only be available until mid-February, so make sure you buy a bottle before it's gone. Don't be afraid to store it either — the higher alcohol content and dark brown bottle allow for Winter Beard to be stored for longer periods of time. Even better, keep a couple bottles in your cupboard for Feb. 14 — it's the perfect drink to impress your zythophilic (beer-loving) Valentine, and to pair with dark chocolate desserts.

ALBUM REVIEW



Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings  
*Give the People What They Want*

Daptone Records

Brad Kennedy

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @HELLA\_BRAD

There's a brazen, aggressive tone to the latest offering from soul music tour-de-force Sharon Jones, whose newest album perfectly matches events in her career in 2013. After being diagnosed with a thankfully treatable bile-duct tumor last spring, the release of the already-recorded *Give the People What They Want* was put on hiatus until Jones was recovered enough to promote and tour with the album. After nearly a year of struggling to overcome her illness and the hardships that came with it, the beautifully dulcet tones of Jones are back with a boom, and sound better than

ever.

The album features a bold and exciting arrangement of instrumentation, not only including some astonishingly groovy guitar licks and bass hooks, but also boasting clavinet, congas, timpani and a full complement of brass instruments. Songs like "Now I See" make you want to stomp a dance hall to the ground with its modern jazzy rhythm, while tracks like "Making Up and Breaking Up" feel like undiscovered gems from the golden era of Motown.

But the impressive musical diversity of the album doesn't impede the

unified message of rebellious energy in its lyrics. The opening track, "Retreat!", is a rough and powerful condemnation of unfaithful lovers: "Boy you don't know what I'm all about / I'll chew you up and then I'll spit you out." Later, the unfair distribution of wealth in America is scathingly critiqued in one of the album's closing songs, "People Don't Get What They Deserve," where Jones sings, "Money don't follow sweat." Addressing the numerous ways in which it's important to stand up and believe in oneself, *Give the People What They Want* is both an album title and a rallying cry.

The variety of styles exhibited by Jones and her backing musicians on this album promise a strong recovery from the hardships of the last year, and signal great things for the artist's upcoming tour. For anyone who's a fan of the greatest hits of soul music from the '60s and '70s, *Give the People What They Want* is proof that the musical spark of that time is still going strong — just like Jones herself.



# Up Close brings Alberta Ballet dancers into proximity

## DANCE PREVIEW

### Up Close

PRESENTED BY > Brian Webb Dance Company

CHOREOGRAPHED BY > Yukichi Hattori and Alex Ballard

WHEN > Runs Friday, Jan. 17 and Saturday, Jan. 18 at 8 p.m.

WHERE > Timms Centre for the Arts (87 Avenue and 112 Street)

HOW MUCH > \$20 - \$35 at [tixonthesquare.com](http://tixonthesquare.com)

#### Karla Comanda

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

While going to shows — be it a concert, a play or a dance — is enjoyable to most people, the experience of a performance can be lost on those who aren't sitting in the first five rows. Fortunately, the almost all-male ensemble of Alberta Ballet's upcoming production, *Up Close*, promises to give an experience "like never before" by leaving viewers only feet away from the high kicks and pirouettes of the talent.

The production is a series of three contemporary ballet performances, featuring *ruin/time* and *The Precise Nature of Catastrophe* choreographed by Alberta Ballet's Ballet Master Alex Ballard and *Temple* choreographed by Yukichi Hattori.

With a largely classical repertoire staged at the Jubilee Auditorium, *Up Close* differs from Alberta Ballet's usual fare in that its staging at the Timms Centre for the Arts features marked proximity between the performers and audience. Veteran dancer Kelley McKinlay explains that the distance is small enough that



**GETTING CLOSER** Kelley McKinlay and Reilley Bell dance in *ruin/time*, one of three pieces in *Up Close*.

SLIPPED: ALEX BALLARD

audiences can see the dancers' every movement in detail, made possible by the Timms Centre's smaller size. He adds that the major push towards a close performance came from Alberta Ballet's artistic director, Jean Grand-Maitre, who was looking to unify his penchant for the theatrical aspects of ballet with his desire for the audience to have a newfound appreciation of the art form.

"He's so much about the theatrical aspect of the dancing," McKinlay says. "So how your face is, the emotions you bring out there, and so to me, it really seems like (Grand-Maitre) wants the audience to be able to experience that in an evening of dance. Whereas at the (Jubilee Auditorium), you get maybe the first five rows to really appreciate that, and then it's lost to the rest of the audience."

"By having an entire audience come in and be so close, they'll really get that unique experience that you normally wouldn't get."

The show's intimacy is a factor for the dancers as well, as most productions seat audiences multiple rows and even balconies away from the stage. McKinlay explains that looking out at a black theatre audience, it can feel like there's no one watching, an

element that's eradicated in this new show.

"You can feel the audience with you because they're basically onstage with you," he says. "I love it, only because I really like to see the audience and their expressions as you dance ... As soon as there's an audience, whether it's one person or three people, you look around the energy level and it just goes up. It gives you this extra amount of energy to just push a little bit further."

"I'm sure they'll feel some sweat, they're that close," he jokes.

Beyond the proximity of the dancers, *Up Close* stands apart from more traditional productions in its casting, which is nearly entirely male. McKinlay explains that because female and male ballet dancers face different demands during the dance season, the show was originally conceived out of pragmatism to give the dancers facing fewer rehearsals another project to work on.

Except for *ruin/time*, a pas de deux between McKinlay and female dancer Reilley Bell, the company's male dancers will perform all the pieces in the show. While the show's all-male ensemble puts a twist on a style of dance well known for its female performers, McKinlay says the absence of female dancers impacts the show's stylings less than audience members might think.

"There's definitely a lot of testosterone for sure," he says. "The pieces are designed to be very masculine and very heavy and grounded, so they're very dedicated towards male movement and what the male body prefers to do. It'll be different in technique and aesthetic-wise for sure, but it's definitely a lot more powerful."

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—Severn Cullis-Suzuki

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# Sports

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## Volunteer

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## Puck Pandas ditch green for teal in fight against cancer



**A GOOD CAUSE** Former Pandas captain and current assistant coach Sarah Hilworth, who lost her mother to cancer two years ago, is spearheading the team's fundraising. GRIFF CORNWALL

### HOCKEY PREVIEW

#### UBC vs. Pandas

Friday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 18 at 6 p.m.  
Clare Drake Arena (87 Ave. & 114 St.)

#### Atta Almasi

SPORTS EDITOR • @SCARBOROBLUFFER

Usually when sports teams or leagues utilize their profile to combat cancer, they often choose to adorn their jerseys or equipment with the colour pink to represent the fight against breast cancer. But when the Pandas hockey team takes to the ice on Saturday against the UBC Thunderbirds, their teal jerseys — replacing the traditional green — will represent the fight against a different, lesser-known form of cancer that doesn't necessarily get as much exposure, but is just as deadly.

"It's cool. It's always fun to mix it up and wear a third jersey,"

fifth-year forward and team captain Katie Stewart said "(Pandas assistant coach Sarah Hilworth) did a lot of fundraising for those jerseys, so it's awesome and I guess it gives the girls something to get excited for the game."

The colour of the jerseys, which reflect the organizational colour of Ovarian Cancer Canada, will be the second annual team fundraiser for awareness of the disease, which took the life of Denise Hilworth — the mother of former team captain and current assistant coach Sarah Hilworth in 2011 — after a long three-year battle. For Hilworth, who still remembers battling through the pain of losing her mother to the cancer which is virtually impossible to detect, diagnose or prevent, and is nearly almost always fatal, having a great support system in the form of her teammates was the only refuge she could seek as she struggled with the stress of seeing her mother suffering from the fatal disease.

"It was extremely stressful and

the year after she passed away, everything was a struggle. But coming back from Vancouver, it just felt like I was coming home again, because the girls are such a great support system," the B.C. native recalled. "I consider them family and they were the best. I honestly couldn't have done it without them. The support that I received from them and just the entire organization and university is just unbelievable."

**"I literally couldn't do anything ... through this event, it feels like we're finally doing something."**

SARAH HILWORTH  
PANDAS HOCKEY, ASSISTANT COACH

For Stewart, who was on the team during that dark period in Hilworth's life, helping her teammate get through the tough time was a

top priority for a team Stewart says prides itself on being a close-knit group.

"When one of us hurts, we all hurt," Stewart said. "Lots of the things that she was going through — the strength that it took, the perseverance — those are the kind of things that we want to have — those values — as a team. So when she was going through stuff like that, it gave us an opportunity to look within ourselves and rally around one of our teammates (and it) really made us bond closer as a group."

Being one of the leaders on a team that continually counted upon her to be a catalyst to provide energy and inspiration to the lineup night in and night out, Hilworth admits the toughest part of watching her mother go through her battle with cancer was the powerless feeling she experienced as her mother's condition worsened. But having the opportunity to play, and now coach, in this game — now in its second year — means that Hilworth and

her teammates are not as helpless as they once were.

"That was probably one of the hardest things, because I literally couldn't do anything (and) just that feeling that, 'I just want to fix everything,' and there's literally nothing I can do," Hilworth said. "Through this event, it feels like we're finally getting to do something — we finally get to make a stand and help my mom and help those who are affected by it now because no one should go through this. No kid should go through this and no team should go through this. And a lot of the girls knew my mom and it hurt them just as much and it affected a lot of (them) and it's hard to stay strong. But everyone kind of rallied around my mom and her strength and it definitely brought us together and we finally can do something about it."

While the game — which was the Pandas' highest attended game last year and brought in \$4,000 in donations to Ovarian Cancer Canada — is also important hockeywise for the Pandas, as the UBC Thunderbirds currently sit two spots ahead of the U of A in first place in the Canada West standings, both Stewart and Hilworth acknowledge that the deeper significance of Saturday night's matchup means it will have a special meaning for all involved once the players step out onto the ice at Clare Drake Arena.

And as for any fans looking to attend the game and show support for the team and their fight against this deadly form of cancer the team will have a donation box, a 50/50 draw and a raffle draw in which they'll be giving away one of the special teal jerseys that the team will be wearing on Saturday as well as t-shirts and bracelets and pamphlets supporting and giving information about ovarian cancer.

"Any awareness we can spread and any exposure is good exposure, so I think just more awareness needs to get out about this disease and sports is always a great platform to get people in tune," Hilworth said. "People will be able to bring that (information) home and just be aware of what are the effects and symptoms and everything, so that they're now aware."



**TRYCKS OF THE TRADE** Dyck scored a hat trick last weekend. HARRY DL

### Bears

**Athlete of the Week**  
WRITTEN BY Atta Almasi

#### F TORRIE DYCK — HOCKEY

The Bears hockey team's games against Saskatchewan last weekend were already special in that it was the team's second series of the season against the team whom they had defeated in the Canada West finals last season. But for Bears fifth-year forward and former Augustana student Torrie Dyck, who netted a natural hat trick in the Bears' 3-2 win on Friday night, that first game of the weekend marked the business major's sixth, seventh and eighth goals of the season. Friday night also marked the first of his five points in two games, as Dyck notched a goal and an assist in his team's 4-3 victory over the Huskies on Saturday.

### Pandas

**Athlete of the Week**  
WRITTEN BY Margim Iliskaj

#### F KENDRA ASELSON — BASKETBALL

Kendra Asleson, the Pandas' leading scorer of the 2013-2014 season, continued her strong scoring and rebounding from the fall into the new year with 19 points and eight rebounds off the bench this past Saturday against UVic, in a decisive 64-54 win over the Vikes. Asleson is putting together yet another strong season, with her field goal percentage at 57.7 per cent — good enough for fifth best in the nation and an impressive feat given her huge offensive role with the Pandas. Asleson's offensive repertoire continues to grow, which comes in handy for the defensively tenacious Pandas.



**CHECKING IN** Asleson had 19 points off the bench in B.C. KEVIN SCHENK





**POSTING UP** Lindsey Post has the best goals against average and most shutouts of any male or female goalie this year. **KEVIN SCHENK**

# Pandas goalie goes Post to post

Lindsey Post has quickly established herself as one of the best goalies in the country

## PANDAS PROFILE

**Atta Almasi**  
SPORTS EDITOR • @SCARBOROBLUFFER

There seems to be an overwhelming consensus among hockey players and those who know the game that the sport's goaltenders are perhaps the strangest and most misunderstood characters in a team's locker room.

And although Pandas second-year netminder Lindsey Post has been a stellar presence in goal for the Pandas hockey team this season — posting a career-high and CIS-leading six shutouts so far this year — it's the dynamic of having to deal with being different from most of the other players on her team that occupies a lot of her time.

"People say that about goalies — that we're all weird — but I like to think that every player has their own weird things," Post said. "As a goalie, you have to stay focused for the entire game, even if the puck's down in the other end, because you never know when (the opponent's) going to get that opportunity (or) that rush down on you. Even if you're not having too many shots that game, you have to be ready for the important saves."

Apart from being one of only three netminders on the Pandas roster, Post also has the dubious distinction of being only one of two Pandas — along with Pickering, Ont.'s Morgan Kelly — on head coach Howie Draper's squad who isn't originally from western Canada. And although Post's recruitment required more than a little bit of initiative on her part from her hometown near Ottawa just inside the Quebec borders, with Post having to upload videos of herself playing AA midget hockey in Montreal, the second-year Phys. Ed major is loving her time in Alberta and hopes to stay in the province after graduation, especially considering the job prospects back home.

"Living in Quebec — I'm English — so it's difficult to find jobs there," Post said. "I'm partially bilingual,

(but) if I was to speak French to a French Quebecois, they would hear my accent and probably make fun of me, but I feel like being here in Alberta, people wouldn't notice as much. And my town is pretty much 50/50 and we're 20 minutes from Ottawa, so people usually speak English ... There's probably a few girls on our team that speak better French than I do so they just think it's funny that I'm from Quebec and don't speak French."

Growing up so close to the nation's capital in the '90s and early 2000s meant that Post grew up watching, and rooting for the Ottawa Senators, and was extremely delighted when the team reached the Stanley Cup finals against the Anaheim Ducks in the spring of 2007.

**"Lindsey looks very composed in net (and) we're very pleased with her development ... She's shaping up to be a great goalie in CIS."**

HOWIE DRAPER  
PANDAS HOCKEY, HEAD COACH

"I'm a huge Sens fan and that was a great run for them and I miss Ray Emery, but I also miss (Daniel) Alfredsson. That was tough over the summer," Post said, describing the departures of the team's infamous former goaltender and beloved captain, respectively. "I'm pretty pumped about (the Heritage Classic) and we've got a couple of girls from Vancouver on the team, so we're probably going to have a rivalry, put on our jerseys and battle it out."

For the Chelsea, Que. native who grew up always wanting to play goaltender and eventually chose hockey over soccer, coming into her own this year — and posting ridiculous stats such as an 0.83 goals against average — has not only helped boost her own confidence, but has gained the praise and recognition of both her teammates and her coaches.

"I think Lindsey, the growth that we've seen from her, just being a second-year on the team, has been awesome," fifth-year forward and team captain Katie Stewart said. "Obviously she's improved so much in every aspect of her game and I think we've seen that this year (with) her extended shutout streak, and we like to think we've been playing solid defence, but she definitely got us out of a few tough situations for sure. So that growth has been everything we can ask for from a second-year player."

Pandas coaches Sarah Hilworth and Howie Draper echo Stewart's sentiments, adding that watching Post improve and grow over the past year has been a sight to behold for both the rookie and veteran coach.

"Lindsey looks very composed in net," Draper said earlier this season. "We're very pleased with her development over the past year. She's shaping up to be a great goalie in the CIS. There's still lots of room for improvement and we're excited to see just how good she will get."

"She's taken a bunch of big strides this year (and) she's working a lot harder than last year, a lot smarter, and I think that it's starting to pay off and I think we're starting to see big jumps from her," Hilworth said. "So going down the road, it's going to be exciting just to see what she can bring."

As for how the country's leading goaltender — who listens to Eminem's new album to get energized before games and in-between periods — sees herself going forward, Post hopes that she'll always have a role shaping the position she loves so much, even if she doesn't get the call from Hockey Canada.

"If it happens I'd be extremely happy for it, but hockey isn't everything and if it doesn't happen, that's fine," Post said. "Being a female, you can't make a living off playing hockey ... (and) I have some experience coaching so I think I would try and get into coaching younger goalies and working with them and (raising) the level of female hockey."



**SPIKED** The Bears will look to make it six in a row against Calgary this weekend. **HARRY DE**

# Friends become foes as Volley Bears face Dinos

## VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

### Bears vs. Calgary

Friday, Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. and  
Saturday, Jan. 18 at 5 p.m.  
Saville Centre (11601 68 Ave.)

**Atta Almasi**  
SPORTS EDITOR • @SCARBOROBLUFFER

While their classmates, friends and family members back home had to deal with the frigid weather that Mother Nature often deals Edmonton during the latter weeks of December, fifth-year setter Jarron Mueller and the rest of his Golden Bears volleyball teammates got to bask in a bit of California sunshine as the team spent the last couple of days of 2013 and the first few ones of the new year in Los Angeles to take on some NCAA competition.

"We love it, it's such a great trip," Mueller said, describing the team's annual winter break venture to the Golden State in which they posted a 1-2 record against the University of Southern California and Pepperdine University.

"We train with USC and they're really good to us, have good facilities, (and) it's really fun to see the American side of college-level sports, and it's also really cool to be competitive with them and kind of go back and forth often and beat them too ... Also getting out of the snow's a lot of fun, we get to see L.A. and it's good for bringing the team together, but also better for volleyball as well."

Coming off a first half wherein the team was 8-4 going into the winter break, the Bears were still undefeated going into the second half of the season, the team's back-to-back 3-0 victories over the University of Regina this past weekend in the Saskatchewan capital were extremely important, according to Mueller, to get the team off to a solid start in 2014.

"Coming (back) into the season against Regina was a good first match to kind of put forth the stuff that we

worked on (in California) and things that we needed to change to continue our winning ways," Mueller said

"We try to take every weekend pretty much the same," Mueller said. "It's a little bit more competitive of a game, but at the same time, the coaches say the same stuff and we prepare the same way for every team, but it's definitely a little bit more fun for sure."

For Mueller, who hails from Alberta's largest city, playing against the Bears' geographical and historical rival, the University of Calgary Dinos, presents an opportunity to reacquaint himself and his teammates with some players they know well on a personal and athletic level, albeit in a competitive setting.

"When it comes to Calgary, it's always a lot more fun because we know all the players (through) provincial teams and stuff like that. We played with a lot of them, so it just kind of amps up the atmosphere a little more," Mueller said. "Connor Frehlich — who I went to junior high school with — he's probably their best left side and a good buddy, and he'll be the top set-getter."

Friday night's game at the Saville Centre will also be a "legacy game", meaning admission will be free for all U of A students carrying a valid ONECard.

The prospect of playing their bitter rivals in front of a large contingent of their classmates is something that Mueller and the Bears are desperately looking forward to.

"It isn't necessarily a huge turnout very often, so it's nice to have a legacy game like this and have fellow students cheering us on. It definitely affects us very positively and having a full gym makes it fun — not just for us, but for the students who come as well," Mueller said. "It's a good opportunity to get more students out so they can see the game, and it's also important for students to see that volleyball is a competitive sport and that it's a lot of fun to watch, (and) a lot of people don't realize that. But hopefully we get a great turnout and have a good weekend."



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# Winning U of A basketball teams and Puck Bears to hit the road

HOCKEY PREVIEW

**Bears @ UBC**

Friday, Jan. 17 at 8 p.m.  
and Saturday, Jan. 18 at 8 p.m.  
Vancouver, B.C.  
[canadawest.tv](http://canadawest.tv)

**Mergim Binakaj**  
SPORTS WRITER • @MISTERR\_E

The Golden Bears put their disappointing late November losses to the University of Calgary and Manitoba behind them with two nail-biting, one goal victories against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies this past weekend. The perennially reliable Bears power play proved to be decisive in both games, as Torrie Dyck pocketed two PP goals in Friday's game and fifth-year captain Sean Ringrose scored the single PP goal in Saturday's game. The Bears are currently first in CIS in power play goals (31), power play percentage (31.3 per cent), as well as power play goals against, highlighting their

remarkable penalty kill proficiency, which is third in the entire nation. Despite this, the Bears did give up a PP goal on Saturday to a relatively middling Huskies team. However, this bump is expected to be smoothed over by a talented Golden Bears team ahead of the mounting competition as the season drags on.

However, before looking too far ahead into the rest of the season, the Bears must focus on their coming two-game series against the UBC Thunderbirds in Vancouver. Despite their 7-10-1 record, the T-Birds have been hot as of late and are fresh off of a four-game winning streak heading into this upcoming weekend. The Golden Bears have already made the mistake of underestimating a team in their last game of 2013 against Mantioba, and hopefully that experience will teach them to respect the talent of every roster they come across.

The Bears, who will rely upon their consistently strong offence, defence and goaltending to this weekend, will look to improve and get into form in time for playoffs.

RANDY SAVOIE

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

**Pandas @ Lethbridge**

Friday, Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. and  
Saturday, Jan. 18 at 5 p.m.  
Lethbridge, Alta.  
[canadawest.tv](http://canadawest.tv)

**Atta Almasi**  
SPORTS EDITOR • @SCARBOROBLUFFER

Already riding a seven-game winning streak dating back to the last two games of the first half of the season at home against the University of Winnipeg, the Pandas basketball squad continued their winning ways with two decisive victories over some solid Pacific Division opponents. On Friday, head coach Scott Edwards' squad opened up the second half of their season on the road in Vancouver on the UBC campus as they got set to take on the 7-3 T-Birds, who were at the top of their division heading into the winter break. Despite the strength of their opponents, the Pandas were able to keep putting the

ball in the basket, taking the edge in all four quarters for a 56-47 victory over UBC. Saturday night brought with it a trip across the Georgia Strait and a game against the University of Victoria Vikes, who, like the Thunderbirds, had a formidable 7-3 record going into the break. Like UBC, they never gained the scoring edge during all four quarters as the Pandas played to a 64-54 victory.

Initially looking like a team that was weary of playing on the road after splitting their season-opening series in the B.C. interior, the Pandas basketball team has since dominated opponents away from home, posting a 4-0 record since that 67-58 loss to the WolfPack to start the year. And with an overall nine-game winning streak in their back pockets, Edwards' veteran laden squad should be brimming with confidence as they face the prospect of a second consecutive weekend on the road with two games this upcoming weekend in southern Alberta against the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns, a team whom the Pandas beat rather handily last season by scores of 74-46 and 68-44.

KEVIN SCHENK

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

**Bears @ Lethbridge**

Friday, Jan. 17 at 8 p.m. and Saturday,  
Jan. 18 at 7 p.m.  
Lethbridge, Alta.  
[canadawest.tv](http://canadawest.tv)

**Mergim Binakaj**  
SPORTS WRITER • @MISTERR\_E

The Bears, ranked third in the nation so far this year, continued an impressive 2013-14 campaign with two decisive wins against the very talented UVic Vikes and the UBC Thunderbirds this past weekend. The T-Birds, who entered the game with a 4-6 record, were outclassed during their matchup against the U of A this past Friday, as the Bears cruised to a 16-point victory behind a team-high 15 points and seven rebounds by fifth-year guard Jordan Baker — who overcame a rather rough stretch of shooting by getting to the free throw line eight times. The highly anticipated matchup the next night between the University of Victoria Vikes and the Golden Bears

proved to be as exciting as advertised, as the Bears withstood a furious fourth quarter comeback by the Vikes to eke out a three point victory over their Canada West rivals who are currently leading the Pacific Division and had only lost one game before Saturday.

The Bears will be playing the University of Lethbridge twice this coming weekend as they get set to travel to southern part of the province on Friday and Saturday night to tip-off against the Pronghorns. The 'Horns — who are ranked second in the Prairie Division of the CIS right behind the Golden Bears — are fresh off a dramatic triple overtime thriller against UNBC wherein they managed to muster enough courage to secure the victory after 55 minutes of play, led by the virtuosic scoring of Morgan Duce and his game-high 35 points.

The outcome of these two games between the CanWest rivals is extremely important for the Bears if they plan on maintaining or improving upon their third place ranking in CIS and associate themselves with CIS heavyweights Carleton, Ryerson and Ottawa.

KEVIN SCHENK





# Drake Night huge hit for Raptors

Canadian hip-hop star proves big names can help pro sports teams in rebranding



**Connor  
Bradley**  
SPORTS COMMENTARY

Although at first, the idea of Drake as the Raptors’ global ambassador might have seemed like a joke to gain Canada’s only NBA club a moment of publicity, after the Raptors’ inaugural “Drake Night” last weekend against the visiting Brooklyn Nets, you can’t argue that the appointment by Toronto’s Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment hasn’t made an enormous impact.

The highly anticipated Drake Night was a glimpse into what could be for the Raptors, and made a surprisingly big splash and was a major success both on and off the court. There was a certain buzz in the arena during the game, and the crowd was as loud as they’ve ever been. Undoubtedly, the Raptors being 13-5 since the Rudy Gay trade has certainly helped, and holding down the fourth spot in the Eastern Conference and leading the Atlantic Division is nothing to scoff at, but having the person who is arguably hip hop’s biggest name supporting and being officially affiliated with your team, has certainly contributed as much if not more to the growing number of fans in the past month who have chosen to jump back onto the bandwagon, than the Raptors’ current record.

Hip-hop legend and mogul Jay-Z made a similar presence with the Brooklyn Nets back in 2012 when he bragged about “moving the Nets to BK” from their long-time home

in New Jersey and helped to make Brooklyn not only a locale that was attractive to free agents, but a globally recognized brand with almost someone everywhere sporting some sort of black and white Brooklyn attire.

Drake — whose presence as an employee of MLSE has already helped one of the ownership group’s other franchises that’s looking to reinvigorate itself after years of failure by helping Toronto FC land an impact soccer player from the English Premier League in Jermaine Defoe — will continue to help with the rebrand of the Raptors over the next two years by increasing the fanbase, and, just like Jay-Z, make Toronto a more attractive destination for the league’s top free agents.

As Hova proved in New York, having a likeable big name celebrity from your hometown — even if you choose to judge him by his confessional lyrics and might think otherwise — can only help boost your team’s brand overall .

Yet having Drake be officially recognized as a part of the Raptors organization and wider branding makes his influential role on the team even more exciting.

Aside from giving out free OVO t-shirts — which are now being sold for \$200 apiece on eBay and feature a Raptors logo in a black and gold colour scheme that has been rumoured to replace the current Raptors colours of red, black and silver — the prospect of having Drake at the game made the Air Canada Centre sell out in minutes, a feat that hasn’t happened at an NBA game in Canada in a very long time.

Indeed, the very power of this

world-renowned hip-hop artist can’t be downplayed on how it’s affecting the Raptors fan base overall. Fans of Drake are now going to become fans of the Raptors. Soon, people on their way to a Drake concert will be wearing Toronto Raptors jerseys as well.

Drake, who helped host the half-time show with a performance from his DJ Future The Prince, also gave away his signature “OVO” Air Jordan 10s to fans, which are also now selling on eBay for almost \$100,000. He engaged with the crowd and the team throughout the game, allowing for an atmosphere that many Raptors fans weren’t used to.

And even though the Toronto Raptors defeated the Brooklyn Nets the same night by a score of 96-80, having Canada’s biggest hip-hop star at the game to announce the starting five and put his own spin on introducing the players gave the crowd an added boost and bonus to their in-game experience.

With the Toronto Raptors and Drake proving that Drizzy’s global ambassadorship is more than just a publicity stunt, there is much to look forward to in the upcoming years for Raptor fans. With the NBA All-Star game being hosted in Toronto in 2016 and general manager Masai Ujiri looking to make the Raps an even better team in the upcoming years with the help of the one and only Aubrey Graham.

And with the Nets — and now the Raptors — benefiting from hiring big name hip-hop artists to help rebrand their team images, maybe it’s about time Eminem looked into helping out the Detroit Pistons help rebrand theirs.

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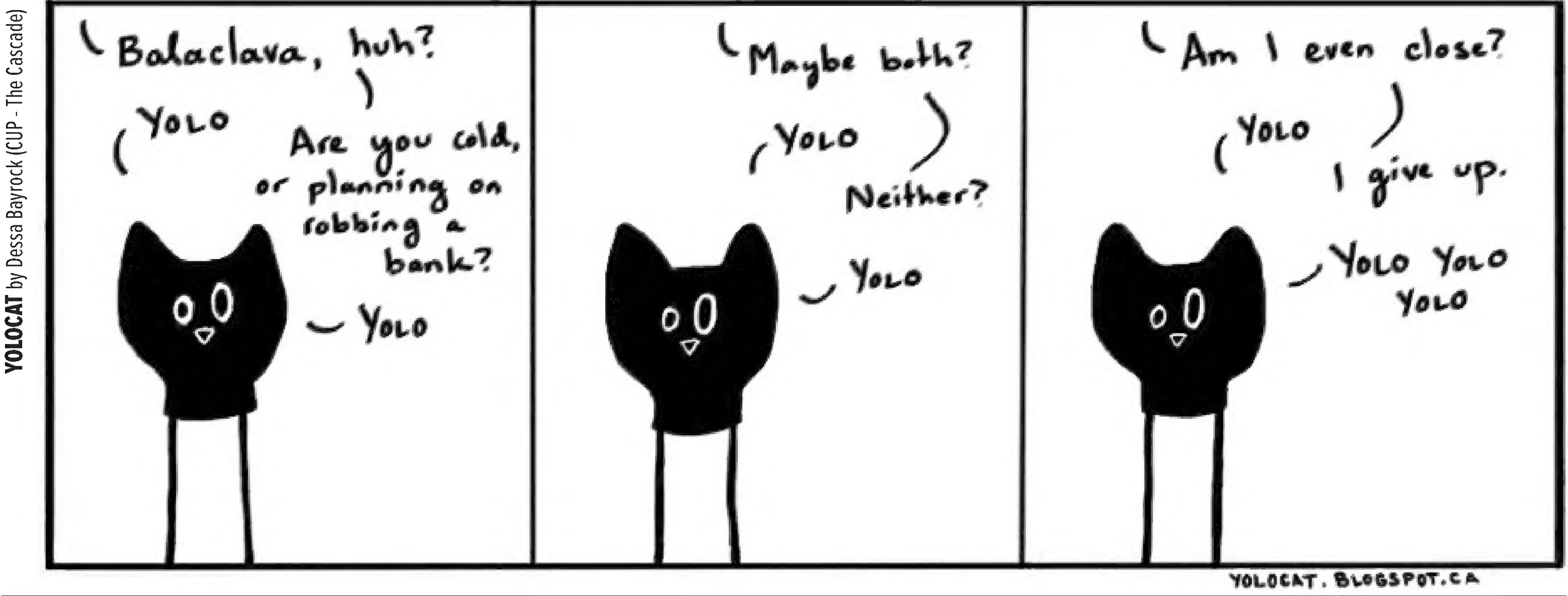
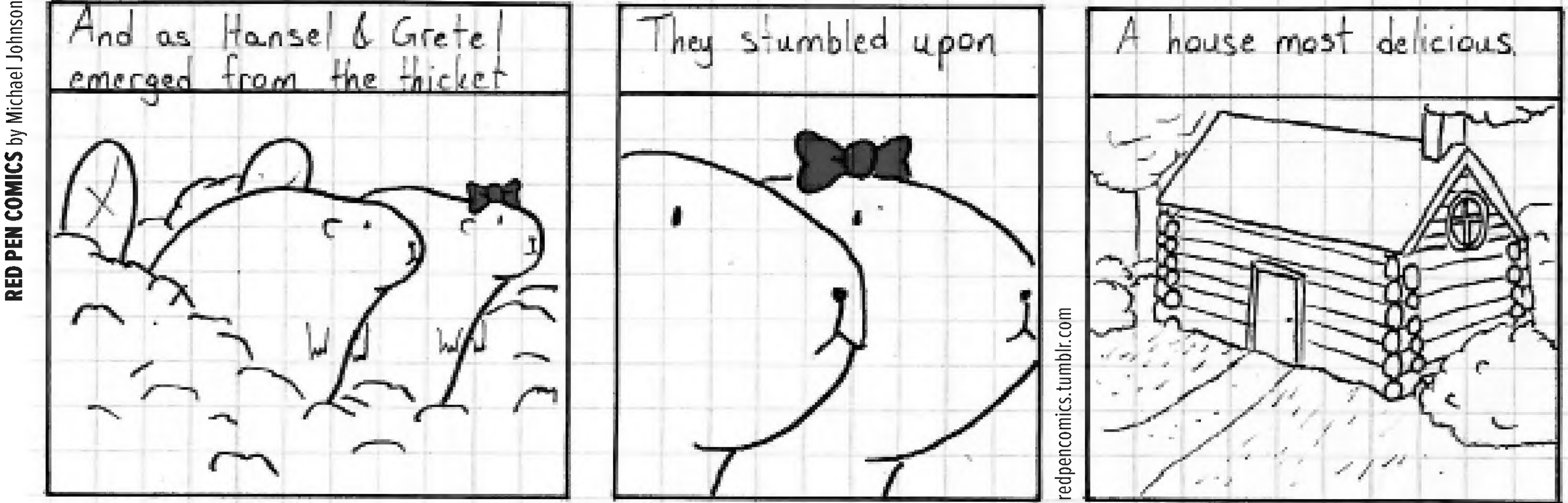
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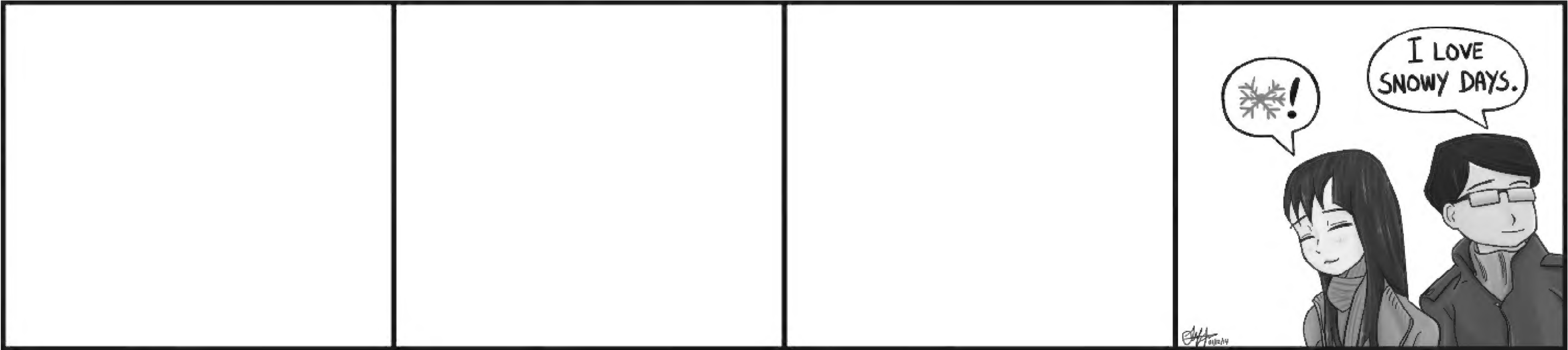
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